

The Original Chaos Yearbook

STAYING ALIVE



1996



the 1990s, the number of people in the UK who are employed in the public sector has increased by 1.5 million, from 2.5 million in 1980 to 4 million in 1995. The public sector has grown from 10% of the economy to 15% of the economy.

There are a number of reasons for this increase. One of the main reasons is the increasing demand for public services. The population of the UK has increased by 10 million since 1980, and the demand for public services has increased accordingly. Another reason is the increasing cost of public services. The cost of public services has increased by 50% since 1980, and this has led to an increase in the number of people employed in the public sector.

There are a number of challenges facing the public sector in the 1990s. One of the main challenges is the increasing demand for public services. The population of the UK has increased by 10 million since 1980, and the demand for public services has increased accordingly. Another challenge is the increasing cost of public services. The cost of public services has increased by 50% since 1980, and this has led to an increase in the number of people employed in the public sector.

There are a number of ways in which the public sector can meet these challenges. One way is to increase the efficiency of public services. This can be done by reducing the number of people employed in the public sector, or by increasing the productivity of the people who are employed. Another way is to increase the funding of public services. This can be done by increasing the tax rate, or by increasing the borrowing of the government.

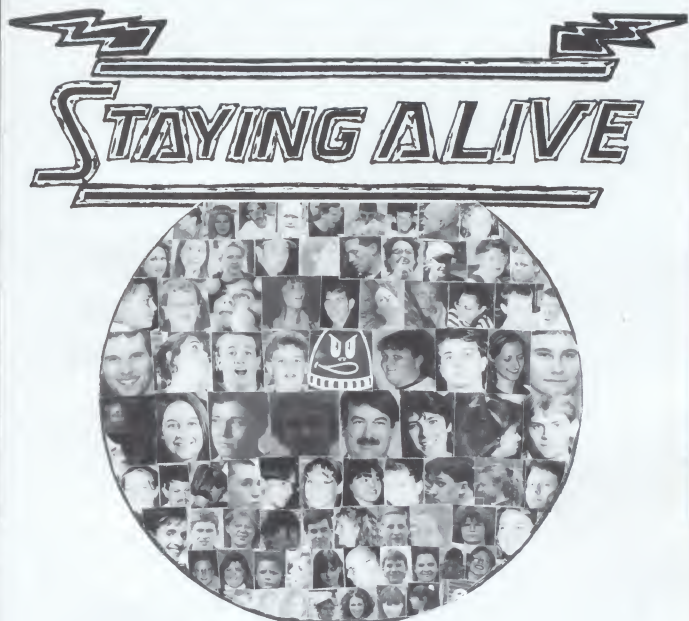
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Rensselaer Central High School
#1 Bomber Drive
Rensselaer, Indiana 47978
Volume 80

STAYING ALIVE

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Fun Fest

This year's Fun Fest was full of FUN! The seniors took over winning three out of the five events. They were quick to defeat the underclassmen in the tug o' war contest, the eating contest, and then for the grand finale the sextet of Breinne Risner, Cristin Carter, Liz Daniels, Cathy Jordan, Nikki Kerns, and Matt Dumas rocked the auditorium with a jig to "Stayin' Alive." When asked how he felt about all the women screaming for him, Matt Dumas replied, "It was not a surprise since I was wearing John Travolta's very own underwear."

The juniors won the volleyball contest, while the sophomores got away with the obstacle course. The junior band got everyone up on their feet after a sad display put on by the sophomore musical aggregation. Of course they must get some credit; at least they tried . . . unlike some classes . . . (FRESHMEN!) But who's keeping score? The most important thing is that fun was had by all . . . and everyone got out of school.



Starting at top, clockwise: Rachel Wailing and Rita Hurley concentrate hard on the obstacle course. Dusty Williams does what he does best, winning the eating contest (there was no finger-pulling event.) Ben Standish, Matt Zacek, Josh Brown, Brandon Schreeg, and Christopher Louck throw it down in the talent contest. The senior class gets ready to cool the freshman class off in the tug-o-war.





*Splish,
Splash,
Mike's
Givin'
Micah
A Bath!!*



Clockwise from top left: Christy Prohosky sacrifices her body for the seniors; Rita Hurley finds it faster to crawl instead of slide; Mike Sitz makes sure the slip-n-slide is wet for Micah Beaver, sophomores Paul Dumas, Ryan Brown and Jared Easter attempt a tune about tuna (sort of); Cristin Carter, Breinne Risner, Liz Daniels, Cathy Jordan, Matt Dumas, and Nikki Kerns, a.k.a. THE SATURDAY NIGHT FEVER DANCERS, recall a flash from the past when disco ruled the music scene; and Jatin Patel.



Fiddler on the Roof

The RCHS Music Department, including both band and choir, presented the spring musical "Fiddler on the Roof." The differences between a musical and a play is that in a musical you usually have more people in the cast and singing, while musicals take more time and money than a play does. The long and agonizing hours spent by all the cast members were well worth the effort, which showed in this production about Jewish life in Russia.

Kent Saylor gets a little squeeze from Hodel (Brienne Hopkins) in this magical moment in the musical.



Matt Leichthy throws his hands in the air as he sings "I Were a Rich Man."

Erin McIlwain, Christie Prohosky, Ericka Saylor, Jodi Click, and Brienne Hopkins sing a hopeful tune about marrying a smart man.



Cast Members

Tevye	Matt Leichty
Golde	Karen Darnaby
Tzeitel	Ericka Saylor
Hodel	Brienne Hopkins
Chava	Erin McIlwain
Yente	Lacy Zobel
Motel	Christopher Louck
Lazar Wolf	John Hamer
Perchik	Kent Saylor
Mordcha	Bona Hensler
Rabbi	Ed Regan
The Fiddler	Stacie Brantner
Student Director	Kim Nagel

Brienne Hopkins sings about her new found love.

Christopher Louck tries to explain to future wife Ericka Saylor why he would be the best for her.



Rabbi Ed Regan performs the ceremony that will wed Motel and Tzeitel (Chris Louck and Ericka Saylor).



Hollywood Nights

Juniors of the class of 1997 decorated the Halleck Center Ball Room at St. Joseph's College in black, gold, and silver to highlight the theme of the 1996 Junior-Senior Prom, "Hollywood Nights." On May 10, Marilyn Monroe and James Dean figurines and pictures decorated the hall, as groovy music was furnished by Lafayette's WAZY, Z-96.

Kara Meunier and Wes Tillett were crowned prom queen and king. Their court consisted of Kellie Barlow, Liz Daniels, Nikki Kerns, Abbey Zimmer, Jason Brock, Brad Burvan, Matt Dumas, and J.J. Nagel. Overall, the juniors gave the seniors another successful prom.

Matt Dumas shows off his dancing ability by performing the "donkey slap."



Bill DelPrincipe, Cathy Jordan and Nikki Kerns are all smiles as they enjoy a dance together.

Brad Burvan and his date share a good time dancing together at prom '96.





The 1996 prom king and queen, Wes Tillett and Kara Meunier, dance to the traditional royal slow dance.

Numerous couples share a slow tune.



The Junior Prom Committee works diligently to put the decorations up in time for the big evening in "Hollywood."

Nathan Bailey and Kevin DeMoss show off their sweet tuxedos as they "stay alive" with the beat of the music.

Graduation



Joe Chapman, along with other seniors in his row, reads the program in anticipation of what's coming up next and when he'll finally receive his diploma.

Red gowns, black gowns, and warm fuzzies along with relatives, friends, and classmates, flooded the gym June second in honor of the class of 1996. The adrenaline and the excitement was immeasurable as the seniors waited to take their final walk across the stage together.



A smiling Abbey Zimmer receives her diploma and places her warm fuzzies on Mr. Day to add to his growing collection.

Everyone knows it's Ed!



On the second day of June, 1996, the class of 1996 was really "stayin' alive" after receiving their diplomas and walking across the stage on to an independent future. Despite some seniors' attitude of "who cares," all seniors seemed to care when the time came for the class of '96 to move their tassels. David Curin and Jaclyn Miller delivered their senior themes, "With a Little Help from My Friends." Their sentiments echoed that the friends they've grown up with might fade away, but the times they shared will always be close to each and everyone of the graduates as they depart and go their own way.

Wes Tillett and Cara Hannon said a prayer for each of the seniors that they might have a full life and joyfulness. Other speeches were given by saluatorian Bill Hannon and valedictorian Dave Fish. Bill's speech reminisced from nursery school to high school. He also remembered the common bonds of the graduates, such as music, slang terms, television shows, and Cheez Come. Dave Fish also shared some memories and wished his classmates good luck.

The graduates started celebrating before the ceremony was over with toilet paper, silly string, poppers, bubbles, and cheers. The graduates gave a warm round of applause to Dusty Williams and others as they received their diplomas. Each senior left Mr. Day a token of their appreciation by placing a bright colored warm fuzzies all over him: including his nose, glasses, feet, jacket, and head.



In the top right photo, seniors Heather Deardurff, Traci Davis, and nervous Bill DelPrincipe stuck with warm fuzzies, prepare to make their last stroll across the gym floor as high school students.

Valedictorian Dave Fish addresses his classmates during the graduation ceremony with many memories and congratulation.

Saluatorian Bill Hannon reminisces of times past that have changed their lives and that each senior will carry in their hearts forever. He also wished good luck to each of his classmates in their future lives.



Clockwise from top right, middle school band director Matthew Taylor directs the high school band in a few numbers as they perform for the graduation audience. David Currin delivers his senior theme paper about how he's "stayin' alive" with "a little help from his friends." Full of so much excitement, the seniors explode in a tornado of silly string and bubbles during the graduation ceremony. Jaclyn Miller addresses her classmates on how her life has benefitted with "a little help from her friends." Senior choir members join the chamber singers in one last performance.



STAYING ALIVE

PEOPLE



FRESHMEN

The Freshmen were "Stayin' Alive" as they hit RCHS in the fall, by jumping in and getting involved in as much as possible. Freshmen played on many teams during their first year in high school and took their places in many clubs and organizations.

High school was not as bad as they were told, and with just three years left they started counting down to graduation. The Class of '99 had only just begun.

Mrs. Hancock's freshman college prep English class takes notes for the big test.



Alex Abel
Tom Alberts
Allison Allie
Garrett Alson
Dan Amsler



Nicole Amsler
Shelly Bailey
Kathy Baker
Amanda Barden
Ashley Baunach



Dawn Bierman
Nick Black
Craig Blasco
Candace Bower
Kelly Brantner



Sarah Brown
Angela Brownfield
Angela Carter
Sean Cawby
Betty Clark





CLASS OF '99 FAVORITE MOVIES

1. Friday
2. Dangerous Minds
3. Forrest Gump
4. Caddy Shack
5. Speed

CLASS OF '99 FAVORITE SONGS

1. Peaches
2. Ironie
3. American Pie
4. Blisters in the Sun
5. Hey, Lover

Keyboarding is important, as these freshmen in Mr. Butler's class are learning: (from front) Laura Meyers, Andrea Virok, Ali Miller, and Taunta Vigeant.



Aimee Clouse
Candace Cook
Megan Critser
Stacie Cross
Chris Crynes

Jodie Daniels
Amanda Davenport
Chris Dobson
Kim Edwards
Stephanie Faris

Beth Fish
Danielle Frazee
Jessica Fredrick
Dana Garetto
Mahendra Gaud

Brooke Geesa
Heather Geesa
Michelle Gibbs
Derek Goad
Kasey Goad

Joby Greene
Kelly Gudeman
Lucy Gutwein
Staci Hamstra
Amy Hanewich



Beth Hannon
Jim He
Heather Hofmeyer
Mary Holodick
Brienne Hopkins



Desiree Hopkins
Joe Hopp
Beth Houston
Chris Hudson
Paul Irwin



Alan James
Stacy Johns
Stephanie Jordan
Tiffany Jordan
Wendi Joseph



Chris Kellow
Matt Kiger
Alex Kingman
Angela Koebecke
Mike Koebecke



Brandon Lakin
Jodie Lakin
Barb Lewis
Ambyr Lucas
Jim Luzadder



Corey Malchow
Tabatha Martin
Lauren McIntyre
Lisa McMillan
Mike McNamara





Laura Meyers
Ali Miller
Katie Mitchell
Becky Moore
Mark Moore



Brandi Moorhouse
Brian Nagel
Jake Nagel
Scott Neely
Shannon Nesius



Kathy Nowell
Andrea Nussbaum
Cara Ockerman
Jatin Patel
Amy Peterson



Rob Pfaff
Stephanie Plant
Sera Putt
Ryan Rayonec
Brendan Riley



Dave Risner
Justin Roberts
Jason Robinson
Kristina Russell
Amanda Sargent



Nathan Schlerman
Jason Scott
Cole Schultz
Mark Slade
Deanna Souders



Tiffany Stalbaum
Amanda Stone
Sarah Stone
J.R. Studer
Ethan Stuff

Jenny Swope
Beth Tatlock
Jessica Taulman
Josh Taylor
Luke Tillett



Charlie Todd
Tonya Turner
Neenah VanBlaircom
Taunia Vigeant
Andrea Virok



Kelly Vogt
Susan Wakeland
Libby Weston
Kristin Wickert
Deidre Wiener



David Williams
Holly Wing
Justin Wiseman
Chad Witherington



Cheerleaders from all classes join in with the six freshmen cheerleaders (in front are Ashley Baunach, Amber Lucas, and Tabitha Martin, and in the back are Lauren McIntyre, Tiffany Stalbaum, and Beth Tatlock) at a home football game.

Freshmen proudly stand by their first homecoming float: (from back) Amanda Sargent, Dede Weiner, Angela Brownfield, Brooke Geesa, and Amanda Barden.





SOPHOMORE

The class of '98 got off to a great start in the fall by winning the title of "Best Homecoming Float." Volunteers spent long hours at Garrett Berry's Horse Farm to work on the effort. Filled with spirit and good "Ole Bomber Pride," the sophomores have two years under their belts as the clock ticks away, bringing them a little closer their graduation day.

Sophomores John Scott, Hannah Zimmer, Brandon Brown, and Paul Dumas study geometry in the math lab.



Chance Amsler
Kasey Anderson
Jill Austin
Bree Bailey
Janel Bailey



Micah Beaver
Garrett Berry
Katie Blasky
Kris Brandenburg
Chris Brenneman



Tom Bretzinger
Brandon Brown
Jessie Brown
Ryan Brown
Cookie Bryant



Adam Buzcek
Kristy Burman
Stefanie Byers
Matt Campbell
Erika Cantu

Andy Chapman
Anne Chapman
Jodi Click
Sarah Cook
Kim Cymes



Brian Cummings
Karen Darnaby
Jon Davis
Andy DeFries
Jeff Deardurff



Tim Dewey
Paul Dumas
Robby Dunbar
Jack Eagen
Jared Easter



Jeremy Eisele
Chad Ethridge
Brianne Fenwick
Kelly Figley
Brad Fleming



Paul Florence
Brandon Gilbert
Shaun Goad
Charles Grater
Becca Hamer



Aaron Hause
Phil Healey
Isra Hendon
Matt Hoyes
Cathy Ingram



Brandon Johnson
Brenda Johnson
Kristy Kellner
Tracey Killgo
Erin Kingman





Katie Kingman
Jamie Kinnaird
Lauren Koebeke
Joey Kosta
Matt Lanoue



RaeAnn Lanoue
Joel Leichty
Cara Long
Brandon Maienbrook
Meghan Mallory



Davina Martin
Jeremy Martin
Diana Matieca
Nevin Mathew
Clint Mattocks



Matt McAleer
Kristen McBride
Mike McCollum
Bryan McIntyre
Scott Miller



Missy Morris
Matt Mullens
Heather Myers
Angie Nagel
Deanna Nagel



Josslyn Nagel
Kim Nagel
Marie Nagel
Mark Nagel
Dwayne Northcutt



Lindsay Northcutt
Eric Nowlin
Resa Nussbaum
James Oliver
Jesse Owsley

Brian Phegley
Chad Pinkerman
Devin Pitcher
Andy Pittstick
Jennifer Pizer



Nathan Plant
Matt Plett
Mike Potts
Eric Putman
Holly Raff



Kevin Reagan
Athena Reff
Brandon Reyes
Julie Robinson
Kim Rodibaugh



Ericka Sayler
Ed Schenk
Ryan Schleman
Andrew Schulenberg
John Scott



Angie Scripter
Holly Shearer
Amy Smith
Josh Smith
Lance Spangle



Jessica Spencer
Meredith Spicer
Misty St. John
Kyle Standish
Danielle Stone



Shana Streitmatter
Star Swan
Teresa Szabo
Clay Thompson
Dan Tollstam





Amanda Tow
Vince Urbano
Jennifer VonTobel
Rachel Waling
Wendy Walker

Julie Walter
Nick Warfel
Ben Warren
Amanda Wheeler
Amanda Whited

Brooke Wickersham
Brad Wiltfang
Tosha Winton
Sarah Wood
Barbara Woodke

Kara Woodworth
Justin Wortley
Ben Zimmer
Hannah Zimmer
Lacy Zobel



On the right, John Scott acts as if he is really listening to one of Mr. Zimmer's earth space lectures, while other sophomores (from right) Kristina Brandenburg, Andrew Schulenburg, Mike McCollum, and Mike Wood pay more attention to the yearbook photographer.

Jesse Brown flashes a smile as Mr. Stefanich announces her grade in World Civ.!

JUNIORS

The junior class was hard at work during the 1995-96 school year, or were they? After asking Bert Daniels what he thought about, he said, "I am excited about being in the upper class, and can't wait until I graduate next year."

The class of 1997 indeed continued to pursue their goals as they moved a year closer to graduation.

To the right, one of Mr. Potter's history class enjoys a movie on the Civil War.



Brandi Alderson
Megan Alson
Megan Bailey
Cynthia Balvich
Jeremy Banister



Joshua Barden
Adam Barten
Tara Baunach
Joshua Beaver
Eileen Blasky



Ray Bower
Stacie Brantner
Jason Brouwer
Joshua Brown
Tim Brown



Erin Cain
Heather Chamness
Tiffany Conley
Chad Cooper
Wayne Cover



Bert Daniels

David DelPrincipe

Jenny Dill

Shannon English



TOP TEN SONGS

1. Ice Ice Baby
2. YMCA
3. Punk Rock Girl
4. I'm Too Sexy
5. Girl's Just Wanna Have Fun
6. Black or White
7. Baby Got Back
8. I Touch Myself
9. We Got To Pray
10. Monday Monday

Colin Eshleman
Machel Floyd
Amy Gastineau
Tiffany Giramonti



Stephanie Gish
Jeff Goad
Jill Godby
Eric Gross
Heather Gross

Vern Hammersely
Jenny Hammond
Brad Hanewich
Derek Harden
J R Harrington

Shaunna Henson
Tony Hermanson
Betty Hofferth
Ted Hoover
Billie Huff

Rita Hurley
Jimmy Igoo
Adam Johns
Rena Johnson
Beth Jordan

Kelly Kleinkort
Lori Kohlhaugen
Christina Lane
Don Langley
John Leathers



Tracy Lewis
Stacy Long
Christopher Louck
Jeremy Love
Sheri Luzadder



Katina Marlin
Jesse Marrero
Nick Martin
Matthew McCellan
Erin McIlwain



Anne McKim
Jennifer Mercer
Kristel Miller
Matthew Mitchell
Christopher Moorhouse



Heather Ney
Jennifer Nichols
Jenny Nystrom
Aaron Parrish
Stephanie Pellegrino



Eric Phegley
Nic Poppen
Matt Putman
Michelle Ringen
Brandon Roberts



Chris Robinson
Maria Rosa
Melissa Saulmon
Joshua Sayers
Lisa Scherb





Daniele Schneidt
Brandon Schreeg
Heather Selby
Vanessa Selby
Stephanie Sellers



George Shanley
Brad Shide
Holly Sinar
Mark Sipkema
Matt Sipkema



Mike Sitz
Chasity Sizemore
Ben Standish
Chris Stone
Sarah Taulman



Scott Taylor
Mike Teske
Kristy Tiede
Tonya Tiede
Tonya Todd



Tiffany Turner
Aaron Ulm
Keith VanWienen
Nikki Virok
Ryan Wakefield



Tim Warran
Natali Watts
Lana Whitecotton
Kathy Wienrank
Theresa Williams



Jeremy Wilmington
Dion Woudema
Tanya Wright
Tina Wright
Matt Zacek

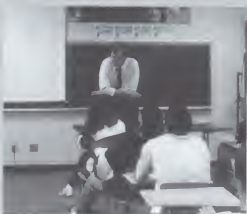
The high school faculty was barely stayin' alive in the 1996 *Chaos*, because the pictures that were to have been on this spread were lost. The second semester spelled doom for the yearbook staff when pages 30-31 were gone, then twenty more were destroyed by UPS. Candid photos were taken and perhaps they will be more exciting than the "mug shots" usually on these pages, so enjoy the replacements on the next three pages.

RGHS said goodbye to the retiring Mr. Peters (see page 32), the industrial arts teacher who started his career at Rensselaer in the old high school in town, and who contributed 35 years service to the school system. He progressed from woods, metal shop, and printing to CAD drawing, and his lab coat will be tough to fill.



In one course of the growing study in the health occupations at RGHS, Mrs. Luetta Nussbaum explains a simple chemical process.

Science department members Steve Brandenburg and Heather Heinig lecture to their respective classes in chemistry (to the right) and biology (below).



On the south wall of the high school building, students find Mr. Robert Hainje teaching social studies (far left) and Ms. Marian Pack helping students like Jeremy Wilmington in math (near left).



Learning about the history of the American language can lead to deep discussions in Mr. Tom Ryan's junior English class.

Mrs. Janett Kingman and Mr. Charles Tait acknowledge another fine Sunshine faculty breakfast.



Jesse Brown can always expect a clear explanation from Mr. Rich Stefanich in world civ class.

Spanish comes from appreciating the culture, as well as the words, as Mrs. Jan Benner explains.



Mrs. Mel Johnson Mrs. Shirley Bretzinger get ready for another day in the RCHS cafeteria.

Setting an example for training athletes is part of Mr. Chris Meeks' routine.



Mrs. Norita Schultz assists a student in the media center.



To the right Mr. Tom Landrum directs the jazz band; just below Mrs. Kelly Spurgeon shares art samples; and Mrs. Pat Franz is surprised when the yearbook photographs her at work.



r
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Goodbye, Mr. Peters



Underclassmen Are Trying to Stay Alive



b
o
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Photos clockwise from top: students cram for exams in study hall, freshmen girls sweat to the oldies, Star Swan hunts for the ball in the woods, Sunshine boogying with Matt Zacek, Kristi Teide, Brenda Johnson finishes the last stretch at a meet, and Ben Zimmer finishes a cross country meet.

Darren Alson
Jason Arnett
Rob Bacewicz
Nathan Bailey

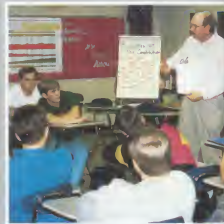


Kellie Barlow
Katie Blue
Aaron Brenneman
Jason Brock

Seniors are Staying Alive (Barely)

The class of 1998 is making it through their last year of high school. They are responsible for one of the most difficult and demanding tasks in the world: surviving their senior year. They are also responsible for one of the most difficult tasks in the world: surviving their senior year. They are also responsible for one of the most difficult tasks in the world: surviving their senior year.

The students of the senior class are in a difficult position. They are in a difficult position. They are in a difficult position. They are in a difficult position. They are in a difficult position. They are in a difficult position. They are in a difficult position. They are in a difficult position.



Christian Brooks
Adam Brown
Amy Brown
Brad Burman



Joshua Canaday
Sean Cannon
Brandon Carroll
Cristin Carter



*Ben Chapman
Joe Chapman
Scott Cochran
Maria Cox*



*Chad Cummings
David Curin
Elizabeth Daniels
Traci Davis*



*Kevin DeMoss
Heather Dearduff*



*William
DelPrincipe
Bruce Dresher
Matthew Dumas
Melissa Dunlap*



*Michael Faris
David Fish
Allison Franz
Nathan Gastineau*

Scott Graf
 Stephen Hale
 John Hamer
 Nicole Hamer



Carra Hannon
 William Hannon
 Melissa Hardesty
 Joe Hayes



Kelly Healey
 Shannon Bona
 Kensler
 Brandy Hitchings
 Robert Hoffarth



Heather Hopp
 Jason Hornbeck
 Jeff Hayes
 Bryan Huff



Jamie Jarrette
 Matt Jeffries
 Cathy Jordan
 Kimberly Joseph





*Diane Jung
Aaron Kellner
Nicole Kerns
Jennifer Kinnaird*



*Karen Kleinkort
Chad Koelbeke
Kent Korniak
Pamela Kyle*



*Dave (Scott) Lakin
Becky Lane
Matthew Leichty
Shannon Marlatt*



*Mary Martin
Kerry Mathew
Kara Meunier
Jaclyn Miller*



*Ryann Montgomery
Jason Moore
Joseph (JJ) Nagel
Matt Nagel*

*Zachary Nagel
Michael Nichols
Rebecca Northcutt
William Parker*



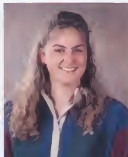
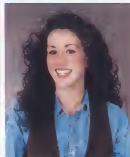
*Daniel Pistick
Randy Potts
Christina Prohosky
Jennifer Pullins*



*Amy Raff
Amber Raff
Edward Regan
Joshua Rewerts*



*Abanna Riley
Brienne Risner
Carolyn Ritter
Nathan Rule*



*Kent Sayler
Kevin Schrum
Abby Siegrist
Lisa Sinar*





*Aine Spurr
Tanya Spurr
Grandan Spence
Sam Streimatter*



*Jeff Sult
Wes Tillet
Michelle Tillotta
TJ Todd*



*Amy Tychek
John Vechev
Vincent VanTobel
Elaine Waling*



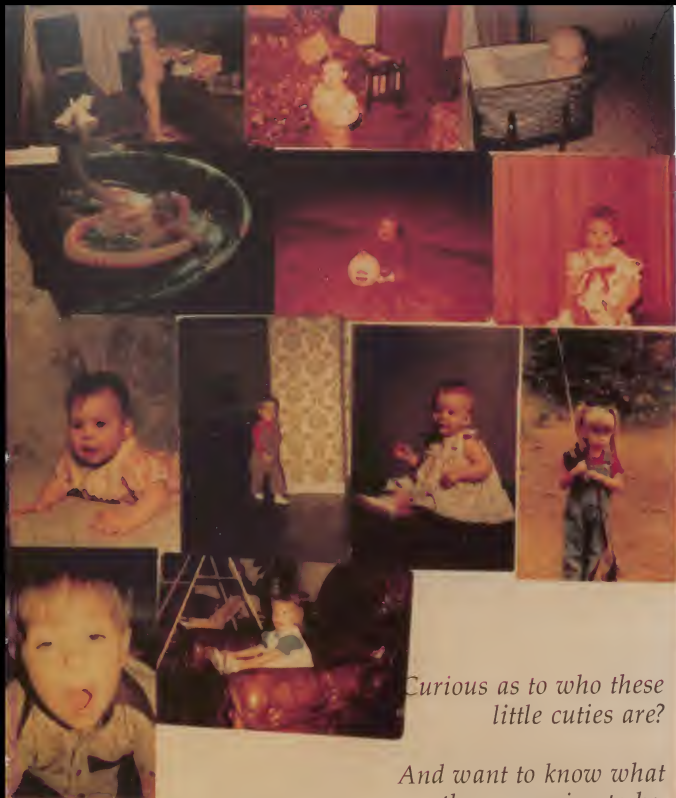
*Willie Wallace
Garrett Weston
Shane Whitaker
Corey Wilson*



*Stacie Wilson
Ryan Wing
Chad Wiseman
Abbey Zimmer*



*Those
little
Seniors in their
Dirty Dippers!!*



*Curious as to who these
little cuties are?*

*And want to know what
they are going to be.*

*Turn to page 123 for the
answers to these and the
ones on the next page.*





Tryin' To Stay Alive

This year the Chaos Staff thought it would be fun to do something different for the Hall of Fame winners, but they were wrong, it wasn't fun it was a BLAST! Of course, how can anyone not enjoy seeing Mr. Oates with a pair of skates on, stumbling around making best friends with the poles. But not only was this a Hall of Fame skating party, it was also for the Mass Communications class. There was a great turn out, and we all skated the night away to the sounds of Saturday Night Fever. There were lots of bruises and sore tail bones, but all the aches and pains were worth it. And we all learned a good lesson: It's not funny to sneak up behind beginners and see how fast you can get them going . . . Right, Mr. Oates?

The 1996 Hall of Fame Winners Are...

Cutie Pies	Brad Burvan and Cristin Carter
Biggest Jocks	Jason Arnett and Breinne Risner
Delectible Disposition	Wes Tilleff and Cathy Jordan
Brown Nosers	Brian Post and Melissa Dunlap
Silly Willies	Mike Nichols and Liz Daniels
Biggest Freaks	Mike Nichols and Breinne Risner
Eager Beavers	Jason Brock and Nikki Kerns
Most Brain Cells Left	Bill Hannon and Cathy Jordan
Naturally Groovin'	Aaron Brennaman and Mary Marlin
Terrible Teases	Bryon Huff and Abbey Zimmer
Prettiest Peepers	Nathan Bailey and Liz Daniels
Bitchenist Fro	Mike Nichols and Carra Hannon
Everyone's Bud	Wes Tilleff and Liz Daniels
Coollest Duds	Brad Burvan and Cristin Carter
Loud Mouths	Matt Jefferies and Ryann Montgomery
Perma Grin	Ryan Wing and Cristin Carter
Somthin' for Nuthin'	Sean Cannon and Liz Daniels
Mob Squad	Bryon Huff and Breinne Risner
Rebels Without a Cause	Nathan Rule and Abbey Zimmer
Artsy Farsty	Wes Tilleff and Cristin Carter



HOMEcoming



Cristin Carter



Elizabeth Daniels



Nikki Kerns



Breinne Risner



Abbey Zimmer



1995 Homecoming Queen - Elizabeth Daniels

As a bystander of the 1995 homecoming events, I must say someone did a great job. Congratulations to the 1995 homecoming court and queen Elizabeth Daniels. According to the new queen, "It was Groovy, Oh, God, Hurt Me!"

She also commented on how she felt very lucky not to fall off of the back of the car. With having the pleasure of actually sitting next to her, she really seems down to earth, well maybe. This *Chaos* reporter did ask Cristin Carter and Breinne Risner, but they couldn't remember. So then the yearbook talked to

Nikki Kerns who stated, "I couldn't figure out where the fire was at during the parade."

Abbey Zimmer couldn't understand why they weren't pulling over for the emergency vehicles. These fine young college prep females all seemed to enjoy this smorgasbord of Bomber spirit and agreed it was an honor to represent their senior class. They were relieved when it was over!



Top: Nathan Bailey, Breinne Risner, Matt Jeffries, Nikki Kerns, Brad Burvan, Cristin Carter, Brian Post, Liz Daniels, J.J. Nagel, and Abbey Zimmer await the decision.

The "Rough Riders" are showing off their spirit.

Rallying at the Bonfire.

Below is ED REAGAN doing the "Truffle Shuffle!"



Seniors in action: all of these guys must be "Best Looking" (Jason Brock, Ryan Wing, and Sean Cannon). Amy Brown tells a story to speech class, and Brienne Risner, Abbey Zimmer, Cris Carter, and Jason Brock try to keep upright on skates.



Yo Comp class: Brad Burvan, Amy Raff, Jaclyn Miller, Eric McIlwain, and Jason Brock; Leroy Keyes addresses the bon fire crowd; and Melissa Dunlap and Ed Regan disco on skates.



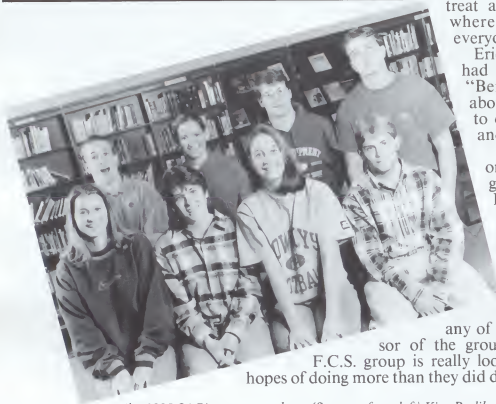


STAYING ALIVE

ORGANIZATIONS



Pioneerz



The 1995-96 Pioneerz organization traveled to the Rensselaer Central and Kankakee Valley Middle Schools to talk about everyday life problems such as drugs, alcohol, family relations, and self-esteem. The group also had a retreat at Camp Buffalo in the fall, where they discussed their own everyday problems.

Eric Nowlin, a Pioneerz member had this to say about Pioneerz, "Being in Pioneerz, you learn about people's problems and how to deal with the problems today and in later years."

Rita Hurley also commented on the group as being "An organization that brings the Rensselaer Central and Kankakee Valley School Corporations together to help better the communities."

The 1995-1996 Fellow Christian Students had a number of plans, but had difficulty accomplishing any of their goals. The teacher sponsor of the group was Lisa Davenport. The F.C.S. group is really looking forward to next year in hopes of doing more than they did during the 1995-96 school year.

The 1995-96 Pioneerz members: (first row from left) Kim Rodibaugh, Rita Hurley, Tara Baunach and Vince VonTobel; and (second row) Eric Nowlin, Elaine Waling, Josh Brown and Vince Urbano.



The F.C.S. members of 1995-96: (row one from left) Billie Huff, Lori Kolhagen, Amy Gastineau, Angie Scripter and Lana Whitecotton; and (row two) Josh Sayers, Alan James, Josh Taylor, Rebecca Northcutt and Katie Blue.

F
C
S

B.A.D.D.



1995-96 B.A.D.D. members: (front row) Jenny Dill, Tara Baunach, Megan Bailey, Tonya Tiede, Kelly Brantner, Andrea Virok, Barb Lewis, Jason Arnett, Bryon Huff, Darrin Alson, J.J. Nagel, Brian Post, Phil Healy, Clay Thompson, Nikki Kerns, Christy Prohosky and Abby Siegrist; (second row) Megan Alson, Holly Sinar, Natali Watts, Tiffany Giramonti, Amy Gastineau, Lori Kohlhausen, Billie Huff, Jimmy Igoo, Garrett Berry, Matt Hoyes, Amber Reff, Katie Blue and Rebecca Northcutt; (third row) Kerry Mathew, Sarah Cook, Erica Sayler, Holly Shearer, Josslyn Nagel, Karen Darnaby, Lauren Koebcke, Jennifer Pizer, Lacy Zobel, Kim Nagel, Jared Easter, Adam Brown and Garrett Weston; (fourth row) Kim Joseph, Traci Davis, Kellie Barlow, Diane Jung, Matt Lanoue, Holly Raff, Kevin Reagan, Hannah Zimmer, Star Swan, Kristina Brandenburg, Joe Costa, Jeff Goad, RaeAnn Lanoue and Rachel Walings; (fifth row) Tanya Vigeant, Danielle Frazee, Kathy Baker, Beth Tatlock, Vince VonTobel, Isra Hendon, Dave DelPrincipe, Ryan Brown, Tosha Winton, Brandon Maizenbrook, Joe Chapman, Scott Cochran, Nicole Hamer and Tim Brown; (sixth row) Jessie Brown, Brienne Fenwick, Chad Cooper, Ben Zimmer, Anne Chapman, Julie Robinson, Andy Chapman, Randy Rusk, Kim Rodibaugh, Lindsay Northcutt, Chad Pinkerman, Sean Cannon, Ryan Wing, Greg Cannon, James Oliver and Amy Tycheck; and (eighth row) Meredith Spicer, Erin Kingman, Jack Egan, Josh Smith, Micah Beaver, Nick Martin, Scott Lakin, Erin Cain, Corey Wilson and Nevin Mathews.



Bombers Against Drunk Driving is an organization that promotes non-drinking and safe driving. The 1995-96 group did increase dramatically in size, but did not get to do very many activities. The teacher sponsors of B.A.D.D. are Josh Hauser and Deana George, and they are looking forward to partaking in many activities in the 1996-97 school year.

Pioneerz member, Vince VonTobel, is pictured on the left talking in front of his fellow members in April of 1996.

AM Building Trades left to right: (front row) Vince VonToble, Jason Brower, Corey Wilson, Scott Lakin, Darrin Alson, and Vernon Hammersly; (second row) Jeff Ploughe, Dan McWilliams, Adam Johns, Nick Martin, Tony Hermanson, and Derek Harden; (third row) Scott Graf, Josh Beaver, Jeff Sult, and Tim Warren; and (top row) Billy Parker, Bona Hensler, Nathan Gastinau, and Scott Cochran.



PM Building Trades top to bottom Shane Whitaker, Jeremy Bannister, Chris Robinson, Eric Phegly, Steve Hale, Jason Hornbeck, Aaron Kellner, Ryan Wing, Aaron Brewer, and J.R. Harrington.



Chris Robinson is making everyone proud by operating this complicated piece of machinery



Building

Trades

am & pm



Just prior to putting siding on the building trades house, Steve Hale and Bob Bacewic first finish by installing fascia over the soffit.

Constructing a house from the bottom up might sound tough for the average high school student, but not for the 30 R.C.H.S. Building Trades students involved in the 1995-96 project. The current edifice started on the first day of school and was ready to sell by May. Celebrating their twentieth year at the familiar location on and around Swartzel Drive, the class will be looking for new building sites to continue their success after the last of the lots will be used in three years.

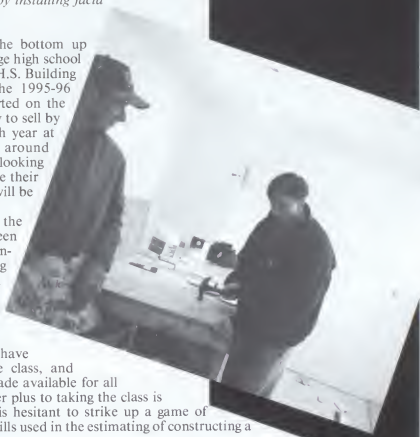
Teacher Dave Goodman said the house had a selling price between \$120,000 and 140,000. The income generally pays for the rising expenses of building a home in the 1990's.

There are many advantages in being involved in Building Trades. The students meet new people that they might not have talked to before they took the class, and Building Trades was recently made available for all females as well as males. Another plus to taking the class is that on the rainy days no one is hesitant to strike up a game of euchre, of course honing math skills used in the estimating of constructing a sound building.

Ryan Wing had this to say about the class, "For all the young people out there, get involved in Building Trades and make sure that you can do good burnouts."

Before the school year was over, the three classes were able to look back with pride at the new home they put up.

In the photo above and to the right, Ryan Wing viciously practices hammering nails into the helpless workbench.



B.P.A. & Media Assistants



Business Professionals of America, better known as B.P.A., worked hard all during the school year raising funds to support their club projects. Included in the fundraising were selling holiday balloons which were delivered to students from other students, bake sales, garage sales, and heart-shaped sucker and chocolate bar sales for Valentine's day.

Outside of school B.P.A. sponsored Walk America for the March of Dimes, and they also have a Leukemia-type-a-thon in order to raise money for these worthy causes.

This class, consisting of 20 boys and girls, was taught by first year teacher Ms. Amiee McKuhen, who said that her job was very rewarding. The students

were scheduled in a two hour block, where they were able to put a lot of time and effort into their work. These future business professionals competed in district and state contests in office simulations, and in 1996 they placed in 13 contests for state at district. Kara Meunier received a third in state at office simulations and went on to nationals in Phoenix, Arizona. Kara said that she was happy to be representing R.C.H.S. at the national level.

In the photo above, Ms. McKuhen gives Business Professionals of America from the class of 1996 (Kara Meunier, Melissa Dunlap, and Kim Tillotta) outstanding senior awards.

The students who are Media Assistants use their study hall time to help out the new RCHS media director, Mrs. Deana George, by checking out books and magazines. They also prepared the cameras and VCR's for teachers before they needed them. During the 1995-96 school year the Media Assistants also helped move all the reference books into the library to make room for all of the new reference computers that were installed in the lobby.

Included in Media Assistants are 11 students from all four classes. These students worked continuously during their day to help other students and teachers. According to Mrs. Norita Schultz, the most help comes from just having the students at the front desk to check out books and answer questions. Without them the check out desk would be swamped.



1995-1996 Media Assistants: (from left, top to bottom) Theresa Williams, Dana Garetto, Stacey Long, Jimmy Igoe, Mrs. Norita Schultz, Amanda Sargent, Maria Rosa, Billie Jean Huff, and Mrs. Deana George.

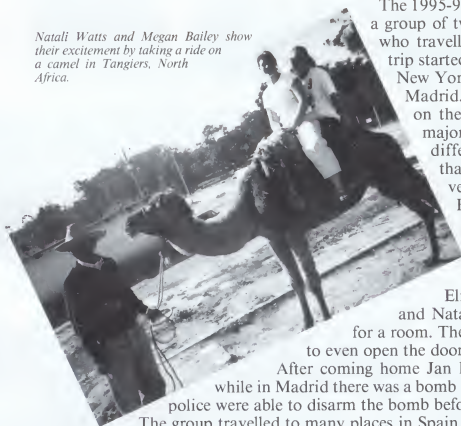


The 1995-1996 B.P.A. members: (from left, top to bottom) Abanna Riley, Brandy Hitchings, Kara Meunier, Melissa Dunlap, George Shanley, Chasity Sizemore, Amy Gastineau, Lori Kohlhausen, Billie Jean Huff, Jimmy Igoe, Theresa Williams, Ms. Amiee McKuhen, Tara Baunach, Tonya Tiede, Daniele Schneidt, Tonya Todd, and Maria Rosa.

One of the fine media assistants Adam Buczek helpfully checks out a student's book.

Sigma di gama

Natali Watts and Megan Bailey show their excitement by taking a ride on a camel in Tangiers, North Africa.



The 1995-96 school year was very exciting to a group of twelve students and two teachers who travelled to Spain for nine days. The trip started out with a twelve hour flight to New York before the group moved on to Madrid. When the plane touched down on the Iberian peninsula, there was a major culture shock. Everything was different especially the food, but thankfully the students did not starve for they found McDonald's and Burger King.

The biggest shock was how small the rooms were. In the first hotel in Madrid, four roommates Mary Marlin, Elizabeth Daniels, Megan Bailey and Natali Watts shared in a tiny closet for a room. There wasn't enough room for them to even open the door.

After coming home Jan Benner informed the group that while in Madrid there was a bomb threat in the city. Fortunately the police were able to disarm the bomb before it went off.

The group travelled to many places in Spain such as Madrid, Seville, Toledo, Malaga and then to Tangiers in North Africa. One of the really bad things that happened was Jennifer Mercer getting \$80 stolen by some gypsies, even after being warned over and over again about students watching their money. Before going to Tangiers the girls were warned not to wear anything revealing. Because of the country's customs, all of the girls wore jeans, dresses and long sleeved shirts. Even wearing these clothes the Bombers on holiday still got a few comments.

The last three nights the students stayed on the Costal de la Sol. The last day in Spain the students were able to spend the day on the beach, where some of them stayed there too long and got really burnt and others just forgot to flip over. Among the experiences at the beach is the one when Lisa Davenport met a Scotsman who chased her down the hall.

The RCHS trip to Spain was probably going to be the greatest experience of their lives and maybe something that they will never forget or let any one forget.



The 1995-96 Sigma Di Gamma members are (front row, from left): Josslyn Nagel, Jennifer Pizer, Kim Nagel, Lacey Zobel, Tina Wright and Rena Johnson; (second row) Janel Bailey, Bree Bailey, Chris Louck, Jaclyn Miller, Megan Bailey, Natali Watts and Erin McIlwain; (third row) Lauren Koebeke, Kristi Burman, Devin Pitcher, Alan James, George Shanley, Chad Wiseman and Stacey Long; and (fourth row) Jodie Click, Rachel Waling, Eileen Blasky, Kathy Weinrank and Nikki Virok.



At the park that was dedicated to The United States of America, Lisa Davenport now knows what it is like to be attacked by a bunch of hungry birds.

The Travelers to Spain are (front row, from left) Mrs. Carol Weinrank, Mary Marlin, Tina Wright, Mary Holodick, Kathy Weinrank, Christina Lane, Mrs. Lisa Davenport and Jennifer Mercer; back row (from left) Josh Smith, Greg Cannon, Natali Watts, Elizabeth Daniels, Chad Wiseman, George Shanley, Megan Bailey, Rena Johnson, Mrs. Cindy Aubuchon, Mrs. Imelda Mangas and Mrs. Jan Benner.

Nine Days in Spain

The National Organization of FFA enjoyed another exciting and prosperous year of activities. The group began the year with their food across America project by explaining to a group of third grade students where all of the ingredients that go into pizza. The organization also held their annual faculty breakfast during FFA week which was a great success. Another activity during the annual celebration was young McDonald's petting zoo where they had the honor of sharing the animals with elementary students and taking the animals to the Care Center for the elderly to enjoy.

Judging livestock, crops, and soil is a big part of the organization's year. Many field trips taken during school and on the weekend are designated for those events. During 1995-96 the following students placed ninth at the national judging contest in Kansas City: Carolyn Ritter, Matt Mitchell, Lori Kohlhausen, Brad Hanewich, Jason Moore, Jeff Lakin, and Stephanie Gish.

The president for the 1995 calendar year was Carolyn Ritter, and the president for the 1996 calendar year was Lori Kohlhausen.

Nevin Mathew commented on the organization, "The National Organization of FFA is a great way to learn things about agriculture. And gee whiz, there is a lot of great people in this organization."

FFA member Brad Fleming mentioned, "It is a lot of fun, but you have to join."

The 1995-96 VICA members: (from left to right) Mr. Walt Brown, Scott Williams, David Curin, Matt Nagel, Jamie Jarrette, Bruce Dresher, Scott Cochran, Joe Hayes, Nathan Gastineau, Zach Nagel (sitting), and Ben Chapman.



VICA

FFA

Long time FFA member Aaron Kellner (at center with hat on in the building) attempts to explain which end of the cow is which to some onlookers at Young McDonald's Farm.



Steph Gish (far left), Nick Tycek (center) and Andy Pitstick (far right) enjoy themselves at the FFA's annual faculty breakfast.



The 1995-96 FFA members: (row one) Jenny Swope, Lori Kohlhaugen, Brad Wiltfang, Chris Dobson, Clay Thompson, Brian Nagel, Jason Robinson and Jake Nagel; (row two) Amy Hanewich, Barb Lewis, Dan Pitstick, Scott Graf, Jason Moore, Brad Hanewich, Mike Faris, Zach Nagel and Ryan Schleman; (row three) John DeLeon, Matt Mitchell, Brad Fleming, Garret Berry, Chris Moorehouse, Bill Parker, Willie Wallace and Rachel Waling; (row four) Rebecca Hamer, Nicole Amsler, Joe Hopp, Aaron Kellner, Cole Schultz, Nathan Schleman, J.R. Studer and Andy DeFries; (row five) Andy Pitstick, Aaron Parish, Phil Healey, Stephanie Gish, Mr. Wamsley, Nick Tycek, Vern Hammersley, Nevin Mathew and Matt Hoyes.



Cutting a rug during a slow song, Darrin Alson and Tara Baunach gaze wonderously into each others eyes.

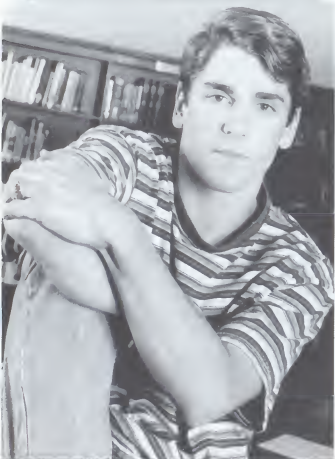
The 1996 Class Officers were Wendy Joseph, Amy Clouse, Wes Tillett, Lacy Zobel, Anne Chapman, Sarah Taulman, Rena Johnson, Luke Tillett, Elaine Waling, Kelly Healey, Mike Sitz, Tina Wright and Beth Tatlock.

The 1996 Student Council Mr. Bomber award went to Wes Tillett.



The 1996 Student Council consists of Brienne Hopkins, Stephanie Jordan, John Scott, Marie Nagel, Brooke Wickersham, Jessica Frederic, Rita Hurley, Dusty Cawby, Brain McIntyre, Cristin Carter, Mike Sitz, Ryan Wakefield, Abbey Zimmer, Alex Kingman, Cathy Jordan, J.J. Nagel, Wes Tillett, Luke Tillett, Paul Dumas and Grandon Spence.

On opposite page: Rachel Waling and Mike Beaver race their hardest to win in the consolation heat during fun fest.



Starting off another very successful year, the RCHS Student Council began by hosting the annual homecoming parade and bonfire. They also hosted many other annual events such as the Valentine's dance, singing Valentines, computer dating, funfest, care center day, as well as CDC day.

Student Council was sponsored by Dori Hancock and was presided over by Cristin Carter. Vice president was J.J. Nagel, Treasurer Chasity Sizemore and Secretary Abbey Zimmer, all of whom assisted in keeping the meetings going, as well as encouraging other members to help make the school year go smoothly.

President Carter said, "I think this year went pretty well, with exception of a few members not wanting to participate. With the senior officers leaving, it will be some pretty big shoes for the freshmen and sophomores to fill."

A underclass member said, "With a lot more leadership from the members, I'm sure we can accomplish what we wanted to this year, next year."

Among the activities Student Council did as service projects was filling three containers full of toys for the children at Riley. The council members drove the toys down to Indianapolis themselves and delivered them personally. At Thanksgiving members donated a dinner to a core family at the Crisis Center.

Senior J.J. Nagel said, "This year was definitely one of our most successful years. For the couple of years I have been on Student Council, I really think that we did an excellent job of keeping the entire school involved. I hope Student Council can accomplish the deeds again next year without the 1996 seniors."

"We did a lot of things we didn't do last year, such as participating in a lot of work shop and conventions. We were supposed to spend the weekend in Merrillville except the weather was so snowy that we couldn't make it. We plan to go next year though. We also went to North Newton and it was a lot of fun. This is where we met a lot of new people whom we see often," added Brooke Wickersham.

Abbey Zimmer pondered, "We had difficulty with students running for office at the beginning of the year, so a few of our members were not too enthusiastic. But for the most part we had a pretty good year."



*Councilin' the
year away!*

Student Council

Science Olympiad, National Honor Society, and Interact



The National Honor Society is growing and changing with eleven new members inducted this year alone. This has been the largest number inducted in the Rensselaer Chapter of the National Honor Society has seen. The new 1996 members are as follows: vice president Adam Barten, president Eileen Blasky, Ted Hoover, Rena Johnson, secretary Lori Kohlhausen, Christopher Louck, Erin McIlwain, treasurer Heather Ney, Michelle Ringen, Scott Taylor, and Kathy Wienrank. These new members have worked hard and through determination they were appointed to the National Honor Society. In the picture to the bottom left the 1996 members of the National Honor Society hold candles which were lit from the candle of knowledge symbolizing the knowledge that they all share.

The 1995-96 Science Olympiad team had a very successful year. Every year it gets better and better. This competition reflects the great science program at the high school and the willingness of the students to compete and use their education in places other than just their homework. Directly to the left Chance Amsler and Micah Beaver duct tape a nuclear reactor.

The 1995-96 Interact group has also been a busy group. They have a two mile section of highway that they spend time cleaning up in the Adopt-A-Highway program.

They also reached out a helping hand to the foreign exchange students and helped them find their way around the school and have a friend to talk to. On top of all that, they send clothes away to Goodwill.





The 1995-96 Science Olympiad team: (top row from left) Vanessa Selby, Andy Chapman, Lacy Zobel, and Randy Rusk; (middle row) Kim Nagel, Christopher Louck, Tiffany Giramonti, Brenda Johnson, and Jackie Miller; and (front row) Brandon Johnson, Chance Amsler, Micah Beaver, Josh Smith, and Ed Schenk.

The 1995-96 Interact members: (top row from left) Devin Pitcher, Erin McIlwain, Megan Bailey, Jenny Dill, and Brenda Johnson; (middle row) Lisa Scherb, Ben Zinnier, and Jason Arnett; and (bottom row) Natali Watts, Tina Wright, Kathy Weinrank, and Jodie Click.

The 1995-96 National Honor Society members: (clockwise from top left) Kelly Healey, Kathy Jordan, Pam Kyle, Kerry Matthew, Wes Tillett, Dave Fish, Jeff Hoyes, Bill Hannon.



Eileen Blasko signs her name in the National Honor Society register.



Academic Team



The 1995-96 Academic Team members: (bottom row from left) Devin Pitcher, Lacy Zobel, Christopher Louck, and Eileen Blasky; (middle row) Stacie Wilson, Jackie Miller, Kathy Weinrank, and Lana Whitecotton; and (top row) Heather Deardurff, Dave Fish, Wayne Cover, John Vechey, and Rena Johnson.



Prior to a spelling match, Coach Heather Heinig receives valuable documents from Mike Nichols on strategies for a win.

The 1995-96 Spelling Team Members: (first row from left) Jennifer Pizer, Megan Mallory, Janel Bailey, Micah Beaver, Mahendra Gaud, and Devin Pitcher; and (second row) Pam Kyle, Dave Fish, Jennifer Mercer, Stacie Wilson, and Ed Schenk.



The 1995-96 Academic Team and the Spell Bowl Team practiced diligently after school many times during the school year to earn their way to success. Although the teams are not recognized as highly as the Rensselaer sports are, Bombers took pride in those who excelled in school. The Academic Team and Spell Bowl Team 1995-96 sponsor was Heather Heinig, and even while on maternity leave she was more than willing to guide the competitors. Approximately 30 students took part in both groups, and many of them were excited about the team and were looking forward to continuing next year.

"The Academic Team was lots of fun and is something I plan on doing again next year. The math team, which consisted of our captain Dave Fish, Christopher Louck, Lacy Zobel, Eileen Blasky, and myself, almost made it to state by placing first in a competition. Also, Mrs. Heinig makes great lunches," says Rena Johnson.

"The Spell Bowl Team was very e-x-c-i-t-i-n-g, and I hope more people will get involved in the Academic Team and the Spell Bowl Team next year," exclaimed Lana Whitecotton.

"I have always been told that it is always good to get involved in as many activities in high school as you possibly can. I'm planning on putting the Academic Team on my college application," replied Eileen Blasky after she was asked the reason she joined the Academic Team.

The Academic and Spell Bowl Team had many competitions this year, and the results of the Academic Team were as follows: they placed third in the Northwest Hoosier Conference, and the Math Team was Area (Regional) Champions. The Academic Team put in a huge effort and had a fantastic outcome. The Spell Bowl Team also had a great year in the competitions: placing first in the North White invite, second in the NWHC, and they were Area (Regional) Champions.

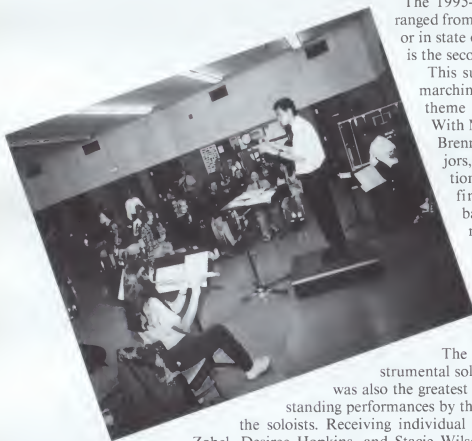
ons.

In the photo to the right, two team letter man Devin Pitcher works hard in world civ class, exhibiting his tireless quest for knowledge and good spelling.



Spell Bowl Team

Instrumental Music



The 1995-96 Band had a sensational year that ranged from all the participants receiving a superior in state contest to a first division rating, which is the second time only since 1988.

This successful year started off with a great marching season featuring the theme Fiddler On The Roof. With Mary Marlin and Aaron Brenneman as the drum majors, the marching aggregation fiddled their way to finishing the marching band season with a runner up at the Lafayette Jeff district contest, which is also the highest score ever received during marching season in the last four years.

The results at the state instrumental solo and ensemble contest was also the greatest yet at RCHS, with outstanding performances by the whole band as well as the soloists. Receiving individual gold metals were Lacy Zobel, Desiree Hopkins, and Stacie Wilson, and Justin Wortley won for both of his solos. There were also two clarinet ensembles that received gold metals. The band had a successful day and all of their hard work paid off. This was the second year that RCHS hosted the ISSMA District Contest. They did a great job and received a superior in both sight reading and their musical performance. The jazz band was also fortunate, receiving a first in contest, the first time ever for Rensselaer.

Band director Tom Landrum was on his third year at RCHS and worked very hard to make this year's band excel as much as they have. They work very hard too succeed in everything they do and it shows! The band keeps improving more and more each year and Mr. Landrum is very proud.

In the photo above, Mr. Landrum directs one of many marching band rehearsals during a before school practice.





Drum majors Mary Marlin and Aaron Brenneman are directing the half time marching band performance at a foot ball game. Kristy Kellner waits with flute at the ready.



The 1995-1996 band members, (top row from left) Director Tom Landrum, Robb Plaff, Andrew Northcutt, Chad Cummings, Justin Worley, and Jennifer Mercer; (row two) Lucy Gutwein, Kaitie Mitchell, Michelle Ringen, Aaron Brenneman, Shawn Goad, Jesse Owsley, Eric Putnam, and Wayne Cover, (row three) Joel Lechty, Jeff Deardurff, Clint Mattocks, Chris Brenneman, Ed Schenk, Megan Critter, Heather Deardurff, Lacy Zobel, and Athena Reff, (row four) Alan James, Misty St. John, Laura Myers, Rebecca Northcutt, Danielle Schenck, Kent Saylor, Dave Fish, Beth Fish, and Desiree Hopkins; (row five) Tiffany Turner, Jerry Nystrom, Susan Wakeland, Amanda Tom, Tonya Todd, Alison Franz, Amy Peterson, Stacie Wilson, Josslyn Nagel, and Jody Click; and (row six) Davina Martin, Kristin Wickert, Melissa Dundap, Shauna Henson, Pam Kyle, Kristy Keller, Amber Reff, Michelle Floyd, and Candace Cook.

Jazz Band members included Jodi Click, Matt Lechty, Robb Plaff, Misty St. John, Justin Worley, Kent Saylor, Desiree Hopkins, Alan James, Josh Taylor, Mary Marlin, Shawn Goad, Michelle Ringen, Lacy Zobel, Aaron Brenneman, Christopher Louck, Joel Lechty, Josslyn Nagel and Amy Peterson.



Jazz Band

The 1995-96 Concert Choir: (front row from left to right) Cara Long, Barbara Woodke, Derrick Goad, Charlie Todd, Stephanie Gish, Tanya Spurr, and Julie Robinson; (second row) Kristen McBride, Stacey Long, Robby Dunbar, Garrett Berry, Rebecca Northcutt, Holly Shearer, and Kristy Burman; (third row) Rebecca Hamer, Erica Cantu, Josh Taylor, J.R. Studer, Janel Bailey, and Lauren Koebeke; and (fourth row) Mr. Doug McKinley, Jill Austin, Jeremy Eisele, Mike Wood, Heather Selby, Martha Sellers, and Betty Hofferth.



The 1995-96 Girls Choir: (front row from left to right) Kelly Vogt, Kelly Brantner, Amy Gastineau, Missy Morris, Sarah Stone, Brooke Geesa, and Jenny Swope; (second row) Amanda Stone, Kelly Gudeman, Theresa Williams, Josselyn Nagel, Beth Houston, Jennifer Pizer, Brienne Hopkins, and Mr. Doug McKinley; and (third row) Heather Hofmeyer, Amy Peterson, Kim Nagel, Tiffany Jordan, Jessica Taulman, Mary Holodick, Desiree Hopkins, and Lacey Zobel.

The 1995-96 Chamber Singers: (front row from left) Kathy Weinrank, Nikki Virok, Sheri Luzadder, Kara Meunier, Eric Gross, Willie Wallace, Vince VonTobel, Sarah Taulman, and Kathy Nowell; (second row) Kelly Figley, Shannon English, Brandon Lakin, Ed Regan, Matt Putman, Christopher Louck, Kellie Barlow, Traci Davis, and Diane Jung; (third row) Christy Prohosky, Stacey Brantner, Andy Chapman, Shannon Hensler, J.J. Nagel, Bill Parker, Julie Walters, Kim Joseph, and Lana Whitecotton; and (fourth row) Heather Chamness, Karen Darnaby, Brad Shide, Josh Sayers, Kent Saylor, Tina Wright, Erica Saylor, and Mr. Doug McKinley, not pictured Mary Marlin.



Choral Music



The RCHS choirs were still recuperating from their extravaganza in Florida during the summer of 1995. They visited the Sunshine State to sing at Universal Studios and Disney World where their performances were a great success.

The 1995-96 school year was very successful for the solos and ensembles. At district contest

a majority of the competitions went on to state level. Receiving superior ratings were as follows: Stacie Brantner, Cookie Bryant, Jodi Click (2), Karen Darnaby, Eric Gross, John Hamer, Rebecca Hamer, Desiree Hopkins, Tiffany Jordan, Christopher Louck, Josslyn Nagel, Kim

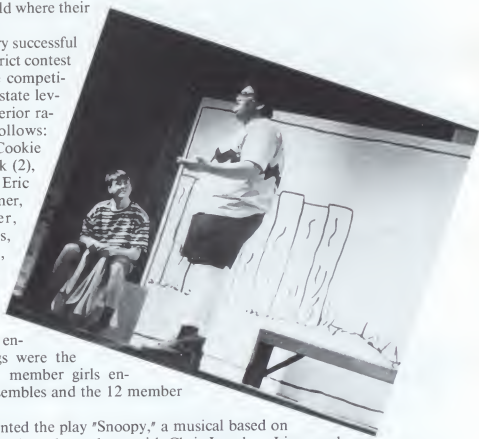


Nagel, Amy Peterson, Ed Regan, Josh Sayers and Kent Sayler. The ensembles receiving superior ratings were the four member boys ensemble, 17 member girls ensemble, both 4 member mixed ensembles and the 12 member girls ensemble.

In the fall the Show Choir presented the play "Snoopy," a musical based on the "Peanuts" comic strip characters (see photo above with Chris Louck as Linus and John Hamer as Charlie Brown.) Other cast members were Kim Nagel, Billy Parker, Kent Sayler, Mary Holodick, Eric Gross, Kara Meunier, Kelly Vogt, Josh Tayler, Jodi Click, Kathy Weinrank, Karen Darnaby, and Christie Prohosky.

For the second year, the district choral contest was held at RCHS, where the Chamber Singers received superior ratings overall, as did the Treble Choir, who experienced the best results with the lowest score of the Bomber singers. The Concert Choir likewise achieved a superior rating and a superior rating in sight reading.

The Choirs also sent eight people (Desiree Hopkins, Stacie Barntner, Lacy Zobel, John Hamer, Willie Wallace, Christopher Louck, Kent Sayler, and Ed Regan) to the All-State Choirs, the most who have ever gone.



Sunshine Society



In the photo to the right, the 1995-96 Sunshine Dance Queens: Beth Tatlock, Kara Meunier, Nikki Kerns, Tara Baunach, and Katie Blasky.

Sunshine Society 1995-96 at RCHS had an excellent year. Along with their regular activities, which include, Daddy Date Night, Mother Daughter Tea, Ideal Lady Night, Sunshine Dance, Faculty Breakfast, and their fund-raising activities which were candy and gift item sales.

Sunshine had some very special activities.

This year's officers were Elaine Waling president, Kellie Barlow first vice president, Eileen Blasky second vice president, Bree Bailey corresponding secretary, Melissa Dunlap recording secretary, Ursula Beaver treasurer, and Rachel Waling historian.

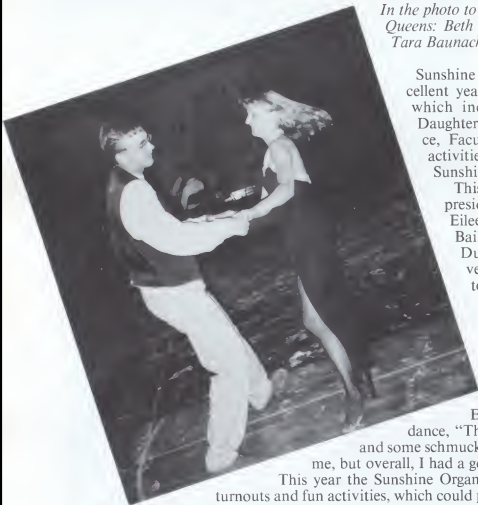
When Abbey Zimmer was asked about the annual Sunshine Dance, she commented, "It was great, especially that back drop on the pictures that Cristin Carter and I did."

Eric Nowlin said of the dance, "The floors were too slippery and some schmuck spilled a beverage all over me, but overall, I had a good time."

This year the Sunshine Organization had a lot of good turnouts and fun activities, which could probably be credited to the hard working officers. Mrs. Meta Waling and Mrs. Kelly Spurgeon also did a wonderful job again this year with Sunshine Society.

In the photo above, Cathy Jordan and her date burn up the dance floor at the Sunshine Dance.

In the photo to the right: (from left to right) Scott Floyd, Nikki Virok, Michelle Tillotta, Amanda Tow, Melissa Dunlap, and Josh Rewerts are looking a little too happy to be drinking JUST punch.





Eager to get up early to feed the faculty breakfast were Sunshine members Eileen Blasky, Elaine Waling, Kellie Barlow, and Jill Austin.

Sunshine Members

Seniors in Sunshine: (bottom row from left) Katie Blue, Christy Prohosky, Cristin Carter, Karen Kleinkort, Jennifer Pullins, Nikki Kerns, and Alison Franz; (middle row) Amy Tychek, Cathy Jordan, Kellie Barlow, Elaine Waling, Nicole Hamer, Heather Hopp, and Rebecca Northcutt; (top row) Amber Reff, Abby Siegrist, Melissa Dunlap, Diane Jung, Kara Meunier, Michelle Tillotta, Kim Joseph, and Jackie Miller.



Juniors in Sunshine: (bottom row from left) Holly Sinar, Natali Watts, Stephanie Gish, Sarah Taulman, Kathy Weinrank, Tiffani Giramonti, Machel Floyd, Tiffany Turner, Jenny Nystrum, Danielle Schneidt, and Maria Rosa; (second row) Megan Bailey, Tonya Wright, Tonya Tiede, Stephanie Sellers, Eileen Blasky, Heather Ney, Stephanie Pellegrino, Lisa Scherb, and Katina Marlin; (third row) Anne McKim, Erin McIlwain, Nikki Virok, Sheri Luzader, Heather Selby, Vanessa Selby, Kristina Lane, Stacie Brantner, Tonya Todd; (fourth row) Amy Gastineau, Lori Kolhagen, Tina Wright, Rena Johnson, Megan Alson, Cara Long, Theresa Williams, Betty Hofferth; (fifth row) Melissa Saulmon, Tara Baunach, Jenny Dill, Heather Chamness, Kristy Tiede, and Billie Jean Huff.



Sophomores in Sunshine. (bottom row) Missy Morris, Brooke Wickersham, Marie Nagel, Hannah Zimmer, Holly Raff, Kristina Brandenburg, Star Swan, Lindsay Northcut, Kim Robbing, Lacy Zobel, Jennifer Pizer; (second row) Barbara Woodke, Lauren Koebeke, Kristy Burman, Jesslyn Nagel, Karen Darnaby, Meredith Spicer, Erin Kingman, Holly Shearer, Ann Chapman, Erica Saylor; (third row) Amanda Wheeler, Kristy Kellner, Julie Walter, Janel Bailey, Bree Bailey, Megan Mulory, Kasey Anderson, Katie Blasky, Jessie Brown, Brenne Fenwick, Sarah Cook; (fourth row) Steph Byers, Amy Smith, Kristen McBride, RaeAnn Lanoue, Rachel Waling, Jill Austin, Wendy Walker, Erica Cantu, Brenda Johnson; (fifth row) Kim Nagel, Hannah Babb, Julie Robinson, Jennifer Kinnaird, Rebecca Hamer, Kelly Phegley, and Jessica Spencer.



Freshmen in Sunshine: (front row from left) Susan Wakeland, Ambyr Lucas, Tabatha Martin, Nereah VanBlaircom, Candace Bower, Deanna Souders, Nicole Anslar, Jodie Daniels, Lauren McIntyre, Wendi Joseph, Amanda Sargent, and Brooke Geesa; (second row) Kasey Goad, Megan Critser, Lucy Gutwein, Beth Fish, Jodie Lakin, Stacy Hamstra, Kelly Voet, Mary Holodick, Kristina Russell, Angie Brownfield, Amanda Barden, and Allie Miller; (third row) Tonya Vigant, Cara Ockermann, Allison Allie, Cathy Baker, Amy Hanewich, Beth Hanon, Libby Weston, Kelly Gudeman, Brienne Hopkins, Kelly Brantner, and Lisa McMillan; (fourth row) Becky Moore, Shannon Nesius, Stacy Johns, Stephanie Jordan, Angela Koebeke, Andrea Nussbaum, Sara Putt, Sara Brown, Beth Tatlock, Jessica Fredrick, Ashley Baunach, and Michelle Gibbs; (fifth row) Tiffany Stalbaum, Danielle Frazee, Barb Lewis, Dede Weiner, Andrea Virok, Katy Mitchell, Tiffany Jordan, Beth Houston, Jessica Taulman, Desiree Hopkins, Amy Peterson, and Heather Hofmeier.



Sunshine Officers and Executive Board: (bottom row, from left) Christy Prohosky, Melissa Dunlap, Abby Siegrist, Kellie Barlow, Elaine Waling, Cristin Carter; (middle row) Rachel Waling, Katie Blasky, Bree Bailey, Anne McKim, Jessica Spencer, Eileen Blasky, Jill Austin, Jennifer Pizer; (top row) Beth Tatlock, Amber Lucas, Kristina Russell, Megan Critser.

Health Occupations



Health Occupation Students of America (HOSA) is a class that shows students what it's like to work in a medical care unit. This course can also help students make their final decision whether or not to go into health related fields. Students who were experiencing this course learned what it takes to be successful in the medical professions.

Stephanie Sellers records a patients progress on a report.

During the first semester students are taught the basics of health care, so they can acquire skills that will be useful in the second semester.

Some skills are taking blood pressure, temperatures, pulse rates, and bed making. In the second semester, the students get a chance to demonstrate what they've learned in the classroom. The students had hands on experience by working with health care workers. The students will also get a chance to visit health care fields to see what reality in the field is like.

The 1995-96 class consisted of twelve girls and two boys. Five of the fourteen were from Kankakee Valley and North Newton. This class was hard work, but it better prepared students for a career in the health and medical fields.

A club new to RCHS in 1995 was art club, which was created to give artists a chance to explore art on a new level. The group was started to do small artistic jobs around the school, like painting the murals in the wrestling room. They also did jobs to raise funds for new experiences. The jobs they did gave them a chance to work as professional artists do.





Health Occupations Club: (front row from left) Melissa Hardesty, Tishia Bales, Jamie Myers, Erin Cain, Tracy Lewis and Stephanie Sellers; (back row) Stacy Long, Nick Bittick, Ben Standish, Jennifer Mauck, Stacy Gibson, Carra Hannon, Kelly Kleinkort and Beth Jordan.



Members of the Art Club: (front row from left) Diana Mateica, Scott Miller, Matt Campbell and Sean Goad; (second row) Brandi Moorhouse, Karen Kleinkort, Nikki Kerns, Heather Hopp, Brandon Roberts, Bree Bailey, Lance Spangle and Charles Gratner; (third Row) Chasity Sizemore, Christin Carter, Tom Bretzinger, Mike Faris, Wes Tillett and Tim Warran; (back Row) John Veechy and Adam Brown.

Art Club

The 1995-96 Chaos staff: (from left) Bree Bailey, Janel Bailey, Mark Sipkema, Ed Regan, Kim Nagel, Cristin Carter, Rita Hurley, Eric Nowlin, Abbey Zimmer, Brooke Wickersham, Matt Dumas, Brienne Hopkins, Amanda Davenport, Kim Joseph, Nikki Kerns, Chasity Sizemore, and Lisa Sinar.



The 1995-96 Rensselaerien staff: (from left) Rita Hurley, Editor Eric Nowlin, Cristin Carter, Abbey Zimmer, Brooke Wickersham, Brienne Hopkins, Nikki Kerns, Matt Dumas, and Lisa Sinar.



Rensselaerien

Chaos



With cropper in hand Mark Sipkema works on one of his sports layouts in the photo to the right.

The 1995-96 *Chaos* staff worked very diligently to make the 1996 yearbook a very special one. "Stayin' Alive" was a theme that had no problem getting expressed. This staff was very enthused, for example: Kim Joseph commented on the good experiences of being able to see how to develop film. Brienne Hopkins was very busy keeping track of all of the purchases of the 1996 yearbooks. While co-editors Mary Marlin and Brandon Carroll commented on how hard everyone worked and how soon everyone completed their layouts. (Yeah-right!) The entire staff worked hard to make this yearbook a special one.

Eric Nowlin learned how to use the computer program *Pagemaker* in his role as rookie editor of the 1995-1996 *Rensselerian*. Eric put a lot of extra time into the paper, even though not all of the editions made it to the public. He said, "It's a tough job, but someone has to do it." Eric worked tediously on making it fun for everyone, even though some crybaby yearbook staff members fought the chance to contribute to the monthly publication.

The mass communications class was not very thrilled with having to do the paper, but after Christmas when the two new Zenith computers arrived, making the jobs so easy and professional. Their addition tripled the number of stations where the students could desk top publish, thus allowing work to get finished quicker (of course, this is discounting human procrastination.)

In the photo at the center of the page, Brienne Hopkins does her daily inventory of ad sales and student book sales.





Clockwise starting in top left-hand corner: Mark Moore shows Liz Daniels a kid; Holly Sinar and Jennifer Pullins start the work out in advanced p.e.; when the writing lab was up, it was a dream; Mrs. Jungblut's English class exercises individual reading and a tornado drill; and Audrey Gorney, Eileen Blasky, Jeff Goad, Mike Sitz, Brandon Roberts and Heather Nye hang the marquee for prom.





STAYING ALIVE

SPORTS



Cheer

Keepin' the Spirit Alive

Leaders

The 1995-1996 cheerleaders started their season after try-outs in March of 1995. Long hours of work prepared them for cheerleading camp at I.C.C. (Indiana Cheer Camp) in Greencastle, Indiana. On July 5, the cheerleaders set off to camp to learn new cheers, chants, and stunts. There they competed against many other squads to try to finish in the top three. Rensselaer's varsity and freshman squads both finished in the top three, but didn't get to return home with the first place trophy. All three squads did bring back the "Most Spirited" megaphone award.

After coming back from camp, the cheerleaders began to prepare for football season. They succeeded in bringing out school spirit by performing new dances at the pep sessions. The cheerleaders had Spirit Days during the week of Homecoming to help invigorate spirit. They helped both the fans and the players get fired up. Football season went by fast as the cheerleaders began preparing for basketball season. In between boys football and basketball season, the cheerleaders got the chance to cheer for the girls basketball team. This was something that the cheerleaders and girls basketball team were not used to, but it turned out to be an exciting experience for both groups because the girls team won their season-opener to Twin Lakes.

Cheering for the 1995-96 boys basketball team flew by quickly. During the basketball season, all of the squads performed dances and routines to the Rensselaer crowd. From season to season, sport to sport, the cheerleaders spirit influenced the fans and students.

The respective captains of squads were Nikki Kerns (varsity), Marie Nagel (junior varsity), and co-captains were Beth Tatlock and Tabitha Martin (freshman.)

At the top of the page, all of the cheerleaders are in action at a home football game.

Freshman cheerleaders are pictured in the middle: (from left to right) Ashley Baumach, Ambyr Lucas, Lauren McIntyre, Tabitha Martin, Beth Tatlock and Tiffany Stalbaum.

Rapt with attention toward the Bomber boys basketball team, the cheerleaders prepare themselves to inspire the crowd.





*Varsity
Cheerleaders from
left to right: Jenny
Dill, Barbara
Woodke, Nikki
Kerns, Heather Ney,
Kim Rodibaugh and
Kara Woodworth.*



*Above: Heather Ney, Jenny Dill and Nikki Kerns
hold up feather-weight Barbara Woodke way
above their heads for the starting line-up at the
Twin Lakes Sectional.*

*Center: Junior Varsity Cheerleaders from left to
right: Megan Marshall, Marie Nagel, Lindsay
Northcutt, Cookie Bryant and Kasey Anderson.*

*To the left: Kara Woodworth, Nikki Kerns, Bar-
bara Woodke, Heather Ney, Kim Rodibaugh
and Jenny Dill stand in line with their arms up
awaiting the results of a free-throw.*



Girls'

*It Isn't Easy Bein' on
the Green*

Golf

The Girls' Golf Team posted a 3-11 record on the season. Scoring varsity team awards were Jenny Dill, Resa Nussbaum, Star Swan, Kasey Anderson, and Anne McKim. Earning a junior varsity award was Deidre Wiener. Jenny Dill won the award for the lowest average (53.2), while Anne McKim was the winner of the Most Improved Player award.

The team ended the season on a high-note, with a fifth-place performance at the Kankakee Valley Sectional. All five girls shot their best rounds of the season. The team is looking forward to a successful season in 1996-97.

Coach Stefanich commented, "All six girls are much improved and will be back next season. We are looking forward to next year and the year after."

RCHS

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Opponent

Lowell/KV

Central Catholic

Culver Academy

Twin Lakes

/Harrison

South Newton

Benton Central

McCutcheon

Harrison/Lowell

Lake Central

Twin Lakes

Invitational

K.V. Invitational

Rensselaer

Invitational

McCutcheon

Invitational

Lafayette Jeff

Invitational

Star Swan keeps her eye on the ball before swinging.



Kasey Anderson is an up and coming sophomore for the Girls Golf team.



The 1995 RCHS girls' golf team: (from left) Mr. Stefanich, Star Swan, Kasey Anderson, Jenny Dill, Resa Nussbaum, Ann McKim, and Deidre Weiner.



In the left center photo on this page, Jenny Dill stares in amazement at her companion's 380 yard drive.

Anne McKim is twisting and torquing her body to rip a vicious drive.



Look at those guns!! Using a championship form, Resa Nussbaum taps in her putt.

Boys'

Boys' tennis team successful in inaugural varsity season.

Tennis

In the tennis team's first year of varsity action they posted a three and seven record. As Coach Steve Doud stated, "For the first year of varsity tennis I felt like the players improved dramatically over the year. Hopefully they will continue to improve for the next year."

The junior varsity award winners were Jatin Patel for best record and Matt Plett for Most Improved. The varsity award winners were Sean Cannon for best record, Colin Eshelman for Most Improved, Matt McClellan for Mental Attitude, and Chris Louck received the Academic Award.

Matt Zacek said it best by stating, "Tennis is like the Bee Gees, you can't get enough."

RCHS

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Opponent

Twin Lakes
Kankakee
Valley
Laporte
Invite
Conference
Lowell
Kankakee
Valley
Lebanon
Invite
Hobart
(Sectionals)

Watching the ball intently, Matt Zacek prepares to hit a winner down the baseline.



Ted Hoover reaches toward the heavens as he prepares to unleash his vicious 110 mph serve.



The 1995 Boys Tennis team; (back row from left) Brandon Schreeg, Ted Hoover, Tim Warran, Matt Zacek, Colin Eshleman, Chris Louck, Matt Plett, Josh Beaver and Coach Steve Doud; and (front row) Sean Cannon, Matt McClellan, Isra Hendon, Jatin Patel, Joby Green, Matt Putman, Joel Leichty and Andy Chapman..



Racing toward an opponent's shot, Sean (Snapper) Cannon prepares his patented backhand to score for the Bombers.

In a thrilling competition with Lowell, Tim Warran displays his fine follow through on his forehand.

Cross

A Season of "Fun Run"

Country

The 1995-96 Cross Country team was "Stayin' Alive" with speed, spirit, and endurance. They've kept up with the pack all the way, and the Bombers have some of the best runners in the area. Some of the "lime-lighters" are: senior J.J. Nagel; junior Holly Sinar; and sophomore Ben Zimmer.

The Bombers ran hard and placed a high 3rd (both girls and boys) in sectionals with both teams making it to regionals. The boys placed 5th and the girls placed 4th in Rensselaer's long awaited return to regional competition. Kicking some running butt were J.J. Nagel and Ben Zimmer known as Rensselaer's "One, Two Punch."

The team had a few promising freshmen on the way to continue in the Rensselaer's excellent running tradition. These amazing freshman are Cara Ockerman, Taunia Vigeant, Justin Wisman, Alex Kingman, and Mike Koebeke. Overall, this was one heck of a season, because it has been a long time since both teams made it to semi-state.

RCHS (boys/girls)

Meet/Opponent

L/L
W/W

Hanover Central
West

L/L
W/W

Central/Pioneer
Benton Central

W
W/L

Twin Lakes/N.
Newton

1st/5th
Sr. 2nd, Fr. 2nd/Jr-
Sr 13th, Fr-Sp 9th

South Newton
Winamac/N.
Judson/KV

3rd/7th
5th/8th

Hammond Gavitt
RCHS Invite

3rd/5th
5th/4th

New Prairie Invite
Lafayette Jeff
Invite
Logansport Invite
Regionals





The Men's Cross Country Team: Alex Kingman, Mike Koebeke, Justin Wiseman, Jason Brock

Coach Bill Zimmer, Sam Streitmatter, J.J. Nagel, Ben Zimmer, Dan Pitstick, and Manager Aaron Brenneman; and The Girl's Cross Country Team: Kristy Tiede, Stephanie Sellers, Chasity Sizemore, Cara Ockermann, Taunia Vigeant, Coach Bill Zimmer, Kim Nagel, Holly Sinar, Rita Hurley, Shauna Streitmatter, and Brenda Johnson.



Kim Nagel is "Stayin'n Alive" all the way to the finish line.

In the lower left photo, Pep-talk from the coach Bill Zimmer.

Directly below, Dan Pitstick chases the next opponent.



Upper Left: Holly Sinar is keeping up with the best of them.

Left: Rensselaer's "1,2 Punch", Ben Zimmer and J.J. Nagel, leading the race.

Girls'

Makin' Some Waves

Swimming

The Lady Bomber Swim Team was off to an excellent start, winning their first six swim meets. "The swimmers have done a lot better this year because of their morning practice and weights every Monday, Wednesday and Friday mornings. This is what gave the girls the extra muscle they needed to really pull through while swimming the harder teams." Coach Dan Kellow commented. This definitely shined through when the swimmers placed first in the LaPorte Invitational. "This was the first year the girls have won the invitational in years!" Kellow added. The swimmers also won the NWHC.

"Last year everyone thought because of losing our last years senior team we weren't going to do as well, when in fact this is one of our best years ever", quoted one of the girls, "but with our strong freshman class that joined us, we had an excellent season!" This definitely was the case when the Lady Bomber Swimmers placed fourth in sectionals, with almost everyone swimming their best times.

RCHS

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Opponent

NWHC

Lowell

South Newton

Twin Lakes

Munster

Harrison

Benton Central

West Lafayette

Central

Catholic

La Porte

Invitational

Lafayette

Jefferson

Pioneer

North Judson

Kankakee

Valley

Seeger

Sectional

Very breathlessly, Abbey Zimmer takes a short breath in the 500 meter swim at sectionals, where she swam her best time ever.



Waiting patiently before their events during sectionals, Sarah Brown, Libby Weston, Abbey Zimmer, Breinne Fenwick, Jessica Brown and Amy Raff take a gatorade break in the hallway.



Swimming her best time ever in the 100 meter butterfly, Sarah Taulman takes one of her few breaths of air.

Amy Raff sprints to the finish line in order to qualify for the finals in the NWHC medley relay.



The 1995 girls' swim team (front row from left): Libby Weston, Sarah Brown, Jessica Taulman, Desirè Hopkins, Beth Fish; (second row from left) Chris Kellow, Erica Sayler, Melissa Dunlap, Jody Click, Sarah Taulman, Megan Alson, Casey Goad, Beth Houston; and (third row from left) Coach Kellow, Amy Raff, Abbey Zimmer, Lacey Zobel, Erin McIlwain, Jackie Miller, Breinne Fenwick, Jessica Brown and Jared Easter.

Girls

Hittin' 'em Hard

Volleyball

The 1995-1996 varsity volleyball team had a tremendously successful year. With the leadership of five seniors (Breinne Risner, Liz Daniels, Amy Brown, Kelly Healey and Jennifer Pullins) the team was loaded with experience. Led by co-captains Amy Brown and Breinne Risner, the team did fairly well during the season with a 15-12 finish.

The only disappointment, according to Breinne Risner, was that "We didn't get as far in the sectionals as I hoped we would." After sectionals the team ended-up 17-13 with two wins in the sectional.



At the net Breinne Risner shows her unbelievable vertical, by spiking the ball right in her face.

Elizabeth Daniels shows her flexibility by taking a wicked swat at the volleyball.

RCHS

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Opponents
South Newton
Kouts
Northwestern
Harrison
Central Catholic
West Lafayette
Benton Central
McCutcheon
Twin Lakes
Lowell
River Forest
Lake Station
Frontier
North Newton
North Judson
Hobart
South Central
Morgan Township
Tri-County
Benton Central
Winamac
North White
West Central
Frontier
West Central
Kankakee Valley
Hebron
Lowell
North Newton





In the beginning of volleyball season you are told over and over again about the ready position. With the speed of a spiked ball, seniors Jennifer Pullins and Amy Brown are always anticipating that the volleyball is going to come their way.

The 1995-96 varsity volleyball team: (front row from left) Kristy Burman, Jennifer Pullins, Kelly Healey, Amy Brown, Megan Bailey and Tanya Tiede; and (second row) Coach Linda Kaufman, Elizabeth Daniels, Cindy Balvich, Breinne Risner, Natalie Watts,

Hannah Zimmer and Coach Derrick Klute.



The 1995-96 junior varsity volleyball team (front row from left) Kathy Baker, Alison Allie, Stacey Johns, Sarah Putt, Jessica Fredrick, Ann Chapman, Kristina Brandenburg and Andrea Nussbaum; (second row) Danielle Frazee, Kristin Wickert, Aimee Clouse, Lauren Koebke, Coach Linda Kaufman, Kristi Burman, Angie Koebke and Jodie Lakin; and (third row) RaeAnn Lannoue, Shannon Nesius, Beth Hannon, Stephanie Jordan, Stephanie Faris, Holly Raff, Erin Kingman and Holly Wing.



Varsity & JV

*Stayin' Alive
on the Field*

Football

The Rensselaer varsity football team started out slowly, but in the words of Coach McKim, "The Team matured as the season went on." The Bombers showed their improvement when they pulled together for a close victory against Lake Station, late in the season.

The seniors showed tremendous leadership by receiving the majority of the team awards. The winners were Kent Korniak and Jason Moore receiving the Captain awards, the Leading Offensive Rusher was Jason Arnett, Kevin DeMoss was the Leading Offensive Receiver, Offensive Lineman was Kent Korniak, Adam Johns got the Most Total Points for defense, Jason Moore received the Best Defensive Line Backer, Kent Korniak was the best on the defensive line, and Ben Standish received the Most Defensive Tackles For Loss. All Conference Awards went to Kent Korniak, Kevin DeMoss, and Adam Johns.

Coach McKim also commented that 1995 was a season of growth so the Bombers should be ready to go get 'em next year.



Top photo Adam Johns, Jason Arnett, Kerry Mathew, and Kent Korniak sweat it out after a long hard practice!

Directly above Bombers scalp the Indians on the tackle.

Varsity Opponents

L	Twin Lakes
W	North Newton
L	North Judson
L	Kankakee Valley
W	Lake Station
L	River Forest
L	Benton Central
L	Lowell

J. V. Opponents

L	Lowell
L	Kankakee Valley
W	Winamac
W	North Judson
W	North Newton
W	Carroll
W	Twin Lakes

Front Row: Manager Chris Hudson, Craig Clouse, Eric Nowlin, Keith Van Wieren, Bryan McIntyre, Dave Del Principe, Adam Buzek, Matt Campbell, Rob Dunbar, Brandon Gilbert, Rodney Boring, Chance Ansler, Kyle Standish, Phil Healey, Andrew Schulenberg, Brandon Brown, middle row Asst. Coach Greg Lintner, Assistant Coach Robert Haupe, Assistant Coach Steve Brandenburg, Josh Barden, Ben Standish, Chad Wiseman, Kevin Reagan, Ryan Wakefield, Mike Sitz, Kerry Mathew, Tim Dewey, Darrin Alton, Chad Wilmington, Tim Brown, Joe Joshi, Adam Barrie, Bert Dupuis, Jeff Good, John Scott, Athletic Trainer Ken Heckman, 1stst. Coach Josh Haupe, and back row- Asst. Coach Chris Meeks, J.R. Harrington, Ray Bowey, James Oliver, Kent Koniak, Jason Moore, Jason Arnett, Kevin Demoss, Bill DelPrincipe, Bill Parker, Jeremy Love, Adam Johns, Matt Lanoue, Aaron Parrish, Brad Fleming, Randy Rusk, Greg Cannon, Brandon Malenbrook, Varsity Head Coach Jerry McKim Not Pictured: Chad Pinkerman, Vernon Haimersley



Photo right center: Kevin DeMoss throws an Ingot down!
Directly above: Jason Moore tackles a Twin Lakes Indian!
To the left: Jason Arnett barges through the defense to score.

Freshman

*Freshman Respond Well
to More Playing Time*

Football

The freshman football team finished the season 3-4-1. They responded well to the task ahead of them, by finishing with a total of only 16 players and with the largest being on the small side at 170 pounds. With these difficulties, the team maintained a positive attitude and a good work ethic.

"Although they couldn't work on the things they needed to improve, they gave their all in most situations," said Freshman Coach Robert Hainje.

This scenario held true in the final game when the Bombers scored with one second on the clock to beat Rochester 14-8. Coach Steve Brandenburg shared the same feelings as Coach Hainje had when he said, "We had a smaller squad than normal and they improved from the first to the last game. We finished with an exciting win over Rochester which was a positive way to end the season."

Jason Robinson added, "Even though practices and games were hard, we still managed to have fun."

RCHS	Opponent	Them
0	Lowell	0
8	Benton Central	28
0	Kankakee Valley	8
42	River Forest	0
16	North Judson	14
6	Lafayette Jeff	34
0	Twin Lakes	37
14	Rochester	8

In the photo to the top right, running back Chad Witherington looks to take an outside approach around the North Judson defender.

Utilizing all that he learned in practice, Justin Roberts plans to make this Bluejay defender miss with this freshman Bomber's fancy foot work.





The 1995-96 freshman football team: (back row from left) Coach Steve Brandenburg, Jason Scott, Matt Kiger, Mark Moore, J.R. Studer, Jason Robinson, Nathan Schleman, Brian Nagel, and Coach Robert Hainje; and (front row) Dan Amstler, James Luzadder, Garrett Alson, Justin Roberts, Tom Alberts, and Cory Malchow. Not Pictured: Craig Blasco, Matt Toosley, Chad Witherington.



Tom Alberts leads a pack of Bomber defenders against the opposing ball carrier.

Wrestling

Grapplers Take Sectional

Continuing on with the Rensselaer wrestling tradition, which is being very well disciplined and always putting forth your best effort. The Rensselaer Varsity Wrestling Team carried this through while having a fantastic season. Coach Meeks commented, "Our goals were to win conference which has not been done in 23 years, winning the sectional championship, and going back to back for our first dual meet which we got second place. We ranked fourteenth in the state and that is a great accomplishment", coach Meeks also added.

Senior Brad Burvan stated, "We had a very successful season by winning four tournaments and placing very high in the rest. With the competition that we have faced it has helped us become a much stronger team." "We accomplished many of our goals and broke many team records," added Kent Korniak.

In the photo at the top of the page, senior Matt Jeffries goes for the kill.

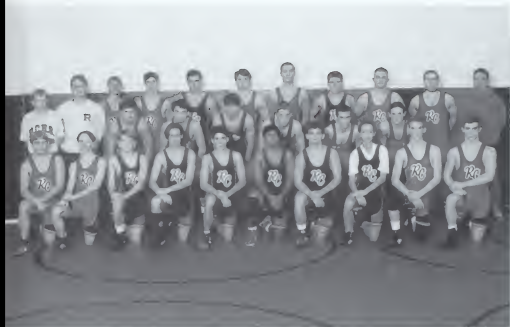
To the right senior Darrin Alson attempts to take his opponent down to the mat.



RCHS	Opponents	Score
48	Kankakee Valley	25
75	North White	6
63	North Newton	9
70	North Judson	2
36	Twin Lakes	36
28	Harrison	30
66	Central Catholic	5
35	Benton Central	25
61	Pioneer	11
61	South Newton	12
43	McCutcheon	31
1st	North White Inv.	(5 teams)
6th	Twin Lakes Inv.	(16 teams)
4th	Kokomo Classic	(18 teams)
1st	Tipton Inv.	(8 teams)
1st	Northwest Hoosier Conference	(7 teams)
1st	IHSAA Sectional	(5 teams)
2nd	Dual Meet Regionals	(4 teams)
	Regionals	
47	Lake Station	22
24	Portage	39
	Record	
11 wins	2 losses	1 tie



Wrestling assistants (from left) Amy Brown, Liz Daniels, and Laurie McIntyre take a break from keeping stats.



Back row (from left to right): Scott Miller, Assistant Coach Matt Anderson, Brad Burvan, Darrin Alson, Ben Standish, Mike Faris, Chad Koebecke, Jamie Jarrett, Mike Sitz, Kent Korniak, Coach Chris Meeks; middle row: Ray Bower, James Oliver, Kyle Standish, Jason Scott, Greg Cannon, Jason Brock; front row: Vince VonTobel, Chris Stone, Tommy Alberts, Keith VanWenin, Brandon Roberts, Manard Smith, Charlie Todd, Holly Sinar, Brian McIntyre, Matt Jefferies.



The Rensselaer Varsity Wrestling Team celebrates a sectional victory.



In excruciating pain senior Brad Burvan pins his Benton Central opponent.

Boys

Team Improves with Age

Swimming

The boys swim team had a year of team improvement. They worked hard and were rewarded by a Northwest Hoosier Conference Championship trophy. With the leadership of the seniors, the rest of the team they placed second in the sectional.

The medley team of Grandon Spence, Adam Brown, Wes Tillett, and Ben Zimmer swam all the way to state competition and placed 17th in the medley relay event. Although Grandon lost the state title that he held the last two previous years, he still held the third place spot in the breaststroke and the individual medley.

Chad Cummings summed up the year, "We didn't improve as much individually as we did as a team. We really worked together because with was our last year together."

Chad Cummings gives a friendly wave as he turns his favorite dive.

Wes Tillett and other team members off the starting blocks as the timer starts.



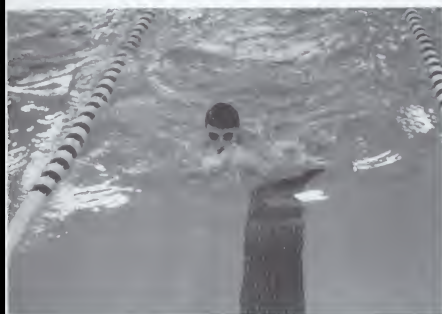
RCHS	Opponent
97	Griffith 49
166	North Newton 30
166	Pioneer 81
115	Merrillville 71
130	Benton Central 58
102	Crown Point 84
121	K.V. 66
75	Portage 111
84	Jeff 102
116	McCutcheon 64
116	W. Lafayette 149
137	Lowell 45
106	Harrison 79
117	Seeger 79
First	NWHC
First	Rensselaer Invit.
24th	sectional state



The 1995-96 Boys Swim Team: (back row from left) Coach Dan Kellow, Kevin Schrum, Garrett Weston, Grandon Spence, Chad Cummings, and Adam Brown; (middle row) Manager Megan Alson, Luke Tillett, Ryan Brown, Jared Easter, Aaron Brenneman, Scott Taylor, Ben Zimmer, Chris Kellow, Wes Tillett, managers Lacy Zobel and Jessica Brown; (front row) Dave Fish, Justin Wiseman, Dave DelPrincipe, and Brian Cummings.

In the center photo on this page, Aaron Brenneman swims toward a flip turn during the breast stroke.

A spinning Scott Taylor lands his dive during practice before the meet that night.



Ben Zimmer is off the blocks to finish the relay as Aaron Brenneman touches the wall after his leg.

GIRLS VARSITY

Dribbling to Success

BASKETBALL

The varsity girls basketball team had a terrific season and with losing only three seniors, will be back next year with even more manpower. Leading scorer and most assists was early in the hands of Hannah Zimmer. Also leading the Bombers were Tonya Tiede and Cindy Balvich (who couldn't play in sectionals due to surgery). The 1995-96 season was loaded with injuries this year for the Bombers, with Tonya being out a few weeks with a broken ankle, Stephanie Sellers out for an injured knee, Shannon Marlatt had a dislocated shoulder, and Cindy's surgery (which was not the first time.)

Having only three seniors leaving the team (Cathy Jordan, Shannon Marlatt, and Brandy Hitchings), the Bombers will be definitely coming back next year with a super chance of winning sectionals. Also with upcoming junior varsity players such as Jessica Fredrick and Natali Watts (who played in the sectionals and did an admirable job.)

Coach Jerry McKim was looking forward to next season and said that "If the lady bombers play with the same enthusiasm as this year, they will do super next year." He also wanted to express to the seniors that they will be sadly missed.

RCHS

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OPPONENT

Twin Lakes
Winamac
Clinton Prairie
Lowell
Lake Station
Hebron
North Newton
South Newton
Carroll
Rossville
North Judson
Frontier
West Central
North White
Kankakee Valley
Tri County
River Forest
Valparaiso
Kankakee Valley

Center Kim Nagel snags the jump ball against the ever-so-tough Valparaiso.



Heather Chamness does an excellent job blocking out, yet does she know they're on offense?



Patently looking for an opening, Hannah Zimmer waits before she is called for "5 seconds."
Playing sticky offense, Shannon Marlatt concentrates on making one of her many assists.



The 1995-96 Girls Varsity Basketball Team: (front row from left) Megan Bailey, Cathy Jordan, Stephanie Sellers, and Tonya Tiede; (back row) Coach Marian Pack, Coach Jerry McKim, manager Teresa Szabo, Cindy Balvich, Shannon Marlatt, Hannah Zimmer, Brandy Hitchings, Kim Nagel, Heather Chamnes, manager Jennifer Pizer and Jill Austin.

Girls Frosh & How deep is their Love?

JV Basketball

Kristy Burman displays her fine form at the free throw line.

Coach Marian Pack's junior varsity squad enjoyed a fine season with a record of fifteen wins and three losses. The girls capped off the year by defeating Hebron and North Newton to capture the year end junior varsity tournament. As Miss Pack stated, "The girls always worked hard and they got along together on and off the court which led to a successful season."

The award winners for the junior varsity were: Kristina Brandenburg for most assists, Natali Watts for best field goal percentage, Tonya Wright for most steals, and Holly Raff for most rebounds.

The girls freshmen team also enjoyed an outstanding season with a record of twelve wins and five losses. The freshmen won their year end tournament at Kankakee Valley and the mid-season tournament held here at Rensselaer. Aimee Clouse's comment on the year was "We improved a lot, and it was a blast."

The award winners for the freshmen were: Andrea Nussbaum for best free throw percentage, Aimee Clouse for most rebounds, and Sara Putt for best field goal percentage, most assists, and most points.



Holly Raff (left), Kristi Burman (center), and Michelle Ringen (right) prepare to crash the boards.

RCHS JV	Opponent
W	Twin Lakes
W	Winamac
L	Clinton Prairie
W	Lowell
W	Lake Station
W	Hebron
W	North Newton
W	South Newto
L	North Judson
W	Frontier
W	West Central
W	Tri-County
W	North White
W	Kankakee Valley
W	River Forest
L	Valparaiso
JV Tourney	
W	Hebron
W	North Newton

RCHS Frosh	Opponent
L	Lafayette Jeff
W	North Newton
W	Benton Central
L	North Judson
W	Knox
W	McCutcheon
W	Kankakee Valley
RCHS Tourney	
W	Twin Lakes
W	Valparaiso
W	Knox
W	Lowell
W	Harrison
W	Seeger
L	Valparaiso
L	Crown Point
KV Tourney	
W	Hobart
W	Kankakee Valley



The junior varsity girls basketball team: (from left to right) Manager Jill Austin, Manager Jennifer Pizer, Kristina Brundenburg, Kristy Burman, Lauren Koebecke, Natali Watts, Holly Raff, Tonya Wright, Michelle Ringen, Jessica Frederick, Manager Theressa Szabo, and Coach Marian Pack.



The girls freshmen basketball team: (from left to right) Kelly Voigt, Sara Putt, Angy Koebecke, Beth Hannon, Stephanie Jordan, Coach Kaufman, Amy Hanewich, Aimee Clouse, Stacy Johns, Allison Allie, Andrea Nussbaum, and manager Kristen Wickert.



Stephanie Jordan blocks out as she prepares to snare another rebound.

Beth Hannon fires up her feathery jumper over a Kankakee Valley defender.

Boys

A season of ups and downs

Basketball

The 1995-96 varsity boys basketball team had an up and down season. Rensselaer started off how they were expected to by winning eight of their first nine games and looked unbeatable. Their second loss of the season didn't come until Holiday Tourney, but the varsity team finished the rest of their season at .500. In the end Rensselaer had a record of 13-8, but their worst loss came to North White in the sectionals.

Awards given were Jason Arnett (most steals and assists), Ryan Wing (best free throw percentage) Kerry Mathew (Mr. Hustle), Christian Brooks (most rebounds), Dan Pitstick (best mental attitude), Bill Hannon (senior academic award), and Brian Post (best three point percentage).

Bill Hannon takes a shot over a North White defender at sectionals.

RCHS

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Holiday Tourney

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Sectionals

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Opponent

Delphi
Twin Lakes
Tri-County
Central
Catholic
North White
Harrison
South Newton
Frontier

Southmont
North Judson

Pioneer
Lowell
North Judson
Benton Central
North Newton
KV
River Forest
Lake Station
West Lafayette
West Central

North White

Brian Post goes up the middle for two.





The 1995-96 boys basketball team: (front row from left) manager Andrew Northcutt, Jeremy Wilmington, Brian Post, Jason Arnett, Ryan Wing, manager Brad Shide; (back row) Coach Steve Doud, Coach Ron Fredrick, Kerry Mathew, Tim Warran, Dan Pitstick, Christian Brooks, Matt Dumas, Bill Hannon, Coach Derek Klute, and Coach Josh Hauser.



Ryan Wing keeps the Bombers close with his free throws.

Christian Brooks goes up for two.



Clockwise starting in top left-hand corner: Kellie Barlow and Cathy Jordan help young writers in kindergarten; Marie Nagel powders her nose before a game; freshmen (Libby Weston, Stephanie Jordan, and Holly Wing) get their night in "Hollywood" while helping out at prom; even though Mrs. Jungblut's class is college prep, they still can't get that darn tornado drill down; and Brian Post and Cindy Balvich take time out for a picture at the Sunshine dance.





STAYING ALIVE

SPORTS



Boys

Run Boys Run

Track

The Rensselaer Bomber Boys Track Team continued with another winning season. "The season was very successful," quoted Coach Zimmer. "I am very happy we finished second in conference and sent ten students to regionals," he added.

The weather was a struggle for everyone this season, but our mighty Bombers pulled through. "This being my senior year, I feel this is one of the most successful years I have had," J.J. Nagel commented.

RGHS finished third out of eight teams in the Gene Edmonds Relays. At the Delphi Relays the Bombers finished first out of five teams. "We gave our best shot at both of these relays and finished well, I am proud of our team," senior Nathan Bailey stated.

One post season highlight for senior track member Nagel came when he carried the Olympic torch into town and up the courthouse steps. Hundreds cheered the symbol of the 1996 Atlanta games, as it made its way up to the platform. Swimmer Wes Tillett helped accompany the flame out toward Saint Joseph's College before the July arrival in Georgia.



Freshman Alex Kingman attempts a higher pole vault personal best.

To the right Ben Zimmer comes in for the home stretch in the 800.

Senior J.J. Nagel sets the pace for the 3200 at the Valparaiso sectionals.

RGHS

L

Opponent

Kankakee

Valley

W

Tri-County,

South Newton,

North White

2nd.

Tri-County,

South Newton

W

North Newton

W

North Judson

3rd.

West Lafayette,

Harrison

3rd.

Gene Edmonds

Relays

W

Boone Grove,

Knox

W

Twin Lakes,

Delphi

1st.

Delphi Relays

2nd.

Conference

4th

Sectionals





The 1996 Boys Track Team: (back row from left) Coach Jeff Brandenburg, Coach Dan Kellow, Coach Bill Zimmer, Dan Pustick, Andy Pustick, Chad Pinkerman, Tim Dewey, Mike Faris, Ben Standish, Dave DelPrincipe, Brandon Brown, Andrew Schiltenberg, Billy Parker, Ray Bowser, and Coach Allen Wortley; (second row) Jared Easter, Brad Fleming, Ed Regan, Ben Zimmer, Nathan Bailey, Kevin Schrum, Kevin DeMoss, J.J. Nagle, Ryan Wing, Bryon Huff, Kent Korniak, and Keith VanWeinen; (front row) Devin Pitcher, Mike Koebeke, Chris Kellow, Justin Wiseman, Chris Hudson, Chris Stone, Mark Slade, Alex Kingman, Brenden Riley, and Cory Malchow..

Chad Pinkerman strides for a win at sectionals.



Senior Kevin DeMoss leaps through the air while competing in the long jump.

A very proud J.J. Nagle heads up to the courthouse steps with the Olympic Torch in hand.

Girls

Relays Lead the Way

Track

The girls track team didn't have Mother Nature on their side much of the year (cold and rainy), but they did have talent. They received third in their sectionals with 13 girls advancing to regionals (Heather Chamness advanced to regionals for shot put; the team of Jennifer Pullins, Megan Bailey, Lauren McIntyre and Kristina Brandenburg advanced in the 4X1 relay; while Lauren McIntyre went on in the 4X4 and the 300 hurdles and Kristina Brandenburg advanced to run the 200. The speedy team of Kim Nagel, Beth Tatlock, Cara Ockermann and Amy Clouse qualified in the 4X8, as did the team of Lauren McIntyre, Marie Nagel, Beth Hannon and Stephanie Jordan went on in the 4X4.)

On awards night Coach Nancy Messman gave to four of the top girls the following: the most points for an upperclassman went to Jennifer Pullins, the most points for an underclassman went to Kristina Brandenburg, most improved went to Marie Nagel, and the Coaches' Award went to Lauren McIntyre.

In the words of Jennifer Pullins, "It was real, it was fun, but it wasn't real fun."

Finding the competition tough at sectionals, Jennifer Pullins puts all she has into the 100.

Stephanie Faris gives her best shot.



RCHS	Opponent
L	Kankakee Valley
W	West Central
1st	Tri-County and South Newton
W	North Newton
2nd	West Lafayette
	Harrison
3rd	Gene Edmonds
	Relays
2nd	Conference
1st	Boone Grove
	Knox
1st	RMD Relays
3rd	Sectional

The 1996 Girls Track Team: (bottom row from left) Brenda Johnson, Kim Nagel, Cara Ockermann, Lauren McIntyre, Jessica Fredrick, Megan Bailey, and Angie Koebecke; (middle row) Taunia Vigeant, Shana Streitmatter, Kristy Kellner, Michelle Ringen, Aimee Clouse, Kelly Gudeman, Sara Putt, Marie Nagel, Kristina Brandenburg, Stephanie Sellers, Andrea Nussbaum, Beth Tatlock and manager Amanda Tow; (top row) Kim Edwards, Candice Bower, Stephanie Faris, Heather Chamness, Beth Hannon, Stephanie Jordan, Hannah Zimmer, Holly Raff, Natali Watts, Holly Sinar, Jen Pullins, Coach Linda Kaufman and Coach Nancy Messman.



Giving it her all in the 100, Kristina Brandenburg sprints to the finish line.

At the cold and wet Kankakee Valley sectionals, Stephanie Jordan flies over the high jump bar.



Megan Bailey rounds the corner of her leg of the 4x1 relay.

Kristina Brandenburg ponders the results of her last race.

Boys

The Fairway Shuffle

Golf

The 1995-96 Boys Golf Team went undefeated throughout the season with wins against a few pretty tough teams. Coach Rich Stefanich said, "I'm proud of the guys, they've done a great job this year, but then again with a team like this I couldn't have expected much less."

The team consisted of three freshmen, five sophomores, two juniors, and three seniors. Brian Post and Brad Burvan both signed with Ball State and possibly Southern Indiana respectively. Sophomore Paul Dumas did extremely well improving to the third man position, saying, "The team had a really nice season and hopes to make a good showing in post season play."

The Golfers won the Northwest Hoosier Conference for the third consecutive year with Brian Post, Brad Burvan, and Paul Dumas making 1st team All-Conference.

Brian Post, who was named the Most Valuable Player and received the Captain's Award, also went on to regional. Brad Burvan received the other Captain's Award, Paul Dumas and Micah Beaver received the Most Improved Award and for the varsity team, while Wayne Cover received it for the J.V. team.

Brian Post said, "All in all experience, work ethics, and solid fundamentals made them strong varsity players."

Brian Post putts toward the cup.

RGHS

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Opponent

Andean

McCutecheon

Boone Grove

Lake Central

West Lafayette

Frontier

Kankakee Valley

Tri-County

South Newton

Winamac

Twin Lakes

Lafayette Central

Catholic

North Judson



Micah Beaver follows through on his tee shot.



The 1995-96 Boys Golf Team: (back row from left) Micah Beaver, Wayne Cover, Brad Burvan, Brian Post, Paul Dumas, Ryan Brown, Chad Wiseman, Scott Taylor, Mr. Rich Stefanich; (front row) Mark Nagle, Mahendra Gaud, Brian Cummings, Alex Abel, and Joby Greene.

Senior Brad Burvan lines up his putt on the green.

Paul Dumas tees off in attempt to win the meet.



Micah Beaver punches his second shot down the fairway.

Shooting for good pin position, Tom Alberts chips onto the green.

J.V. & Varsity

Disco Inferno on the Diamond

Baseball

The varsity baseball team got off to a rocky start dropping twelve of their first fifteen games. The Bombers had a completely revamped coaching staff which included Ron Benakovitch, Nick Lewis, Justin Lewis, Kirk Quasebarth, and Robin Voss.

Senior Matt Dumas commented on the season, "Despite getting off to a poor start, there is nothing more I would want to be doing than playing golf . . . I mean baseball."

Also commenting on the season was senior Nathan "Ruby" Rule "The season stunk until we started winning."

Despite the poor start the team quickly regrouped and won nine of their next thirteen games before heading into the sectional, where the Bombers drew a bye then lost to Tri-County at the Twin Lakes Sectional. The team finished with a record of twelve wins and seventeen losses.

The junior varsity team also enjoyed a fine season with a record of eight wins and six losses. Coach Kirk Quasebarth had this to say about the season, "I really enjoyed myself in my first year here at Rensselaer. I had a great group of guys which really made my job easier."

Junior Ryan Wakefield attempts to knock the cover off the ball.

RCHS

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Sectionals

OPPONENT

Lowell
McCutcheon
North Newton
Benton Central
Tri-County
South Newton
North Judson
Hebron
Kankakee Valley
Harrison
North White
Frontier
Twin Lakes
West Central
River Forest
Merrillville
Lake Station
South Newton
Winamac
Tri-County
Boone Grove

Tri-County



Always hustling, Derek Benakovitch safely gets back to first against West Central.



Senior hurler Matt Dumas prepares to whip the ball to a batter.





The 1996 varsity baseball team: (bottom row from left) Garrett Alson, Nathan Rule, Coach Robin Voss, Coach Nick Lewis, Coach Ron Benakovitch, Coach Kurt Quasebarth, Coach Justin Lewis, Josh Benakovitch, Jain Patel; (second row) Matt McClellan, Derek Benakovitch, Jeff Hoyes, Justin Roberts, Isaiah Benakovitch, Adam Johns, Bill Del-Principe, Ryan Wakefield; (third row) Kyle Standish, Aaron Brewer, Matt Lanoue, Dave Risner, John Scott, Jeremy Wilmington, Matt Dumas, Jason Arnett, Darrin Alson, and Matt MacAleer.



The junior varsity baseball team: (first row from left) Joe Hopp, Garrett Alson, Dan Am-ler, Sean Cawby, Jain Patel, and Isaiah Benakovitch; (second row) Matt Campbell, James Luzadder, Clay Thompson, Josh Smith, Garrett Berry, and Justin Roberts; (third row) Coach Voss, Coach Nick Lewis, Matt Kiger, Matt MacAleer, Dave Risner, Shaun Goad, Matt McClellan, Kyle Standish, Vernon Ham-mersley, Coach Benakovitch, Coach Quasebarth, and Coach Justin Lewis.



Matt McClellan follows through on his sweet swing.



Darrin Alson hurls the ball to homeplate as Adams Johns attentively looks on.

Girls

Girls Still Improving

Tennis

Ready to make a fierce return, Sarah Taulman takes a swing during a doubles competition.

The 1995-96 girls tennis team had a learning experience this season. This is the second year that this program has been in place. Like any other sports program it takes a few years to develop a competitive and winning team.

Even though the tennis team had a 0-9 record the improvements were tremendous and the girls had fun.

Danielle Frazee had this to say, "It was a fun season and our scores didn't show the improvements we made as individuals and as a team."

The captain of the team was Mary Marlin who played the tough role has the number one singles player for the Bombers.

On being a captain Mary had this to say, "The underclassmen were great to work with and I hope all the freshman and sophomores should stick with it in the upcoming years so we can put Rensselaer Tennis at the top!"

Like Mary said there were a lot of freshman and sophomores participating this year. This is good experience in the next couple of years when the Bombers will be the team that everyone is gunning for.

Using the famed "shaking hands" grip, Lauren Koebeke gets ready to put the ball past her foe.

Pointing to her partner to get ready for the next offering from the enemy, Meredith Spicer involves herself in another near win for the girls tennis team.

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Opponent

Kankakee

Valley

Benton Central

Knox

Laporte

Invitational

River Forest

Lowell

McCutcheon

Conference

North Judson

Twin Lakes

Kankakee

Valley

Harrison

Plymouth





The 1995-96 Girls Tennis Team: (back row from left) Coach Chasity Miller, Stacey Wilson, Lacey Zobel, Ericka Saylor, Desiree Hopkins, Beth Houston, Heather Shelby, Shannon Nesius, Melissa Saulmon, Erin Kingman, Katie Blaskey, Janel Bailey, and Angie Davidson; (middle row from left) Jodi Click, Jennifer Pizer, Jessica Taulman, Maria Acevedo, Liz Daniels, Danielle Frazee, Holly Shearer, Lauren Koebecke, Julie Walter, Kristy Burman, and Mary Marlin; (bottom row from left) Meredith Spicer, Tiffany Giramonti, Sarah Taulman, Ann McKim, Allison Allie, Cookie Byrant, Ann Chapman, Lucy Gutwein, Meghan Christen, Jodi Lakin, and Beth Fish.

Sophomore Kristy Burman prepares to smash the ball down the throat of her opposition.



Captain Mary Marlin serves the tennis ball over to her awaiting opponent with as much fire power as she can muster.

Giving it the old "college try," Janel Bailey reaches for a low shot.



Post Takes #2 Spot in State!

RCHS Senior Golfer Loses by 1 Stroke in Play-Off

Brian Post came within one stroke of winning the state championship in golf at the Prestwick Country Club. After qualifying the last four years in the final rounds, Post and Ben Davis junior Kevin Newell tied the tourney forcing a 10th hole play-off. Post bogeyed and Newell parred, but no other male golfer at RCHS, nor in very few other sports at the school, represented the program so well at the state level. (It is unfortunate that this tribute to Brian is not part of the golf layout, but because the school year was over and deadlines were past due, the Chaos was at least proud to honor Brian here at the end of the sports section.)



In the photos above and to the top right, Brian Post shows the form that took him to state.

To complete the page, here is another view of the class of 1996.





STAYING ALIVE

ADS



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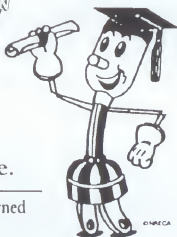
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Page 41-42: (first row) Zach Nagel - Mechanic, Traci Davis - Physical Therapist, Katie Blue - Accountant, Matt Jeffries - Undecided, Steve Hale - Undecided, Darrin Alson - Undecided, Randy Potts - Machine Operator (second row) Elaine Waling - History Teacher, Misty Walker - Dental Assistant, Garrett Weston - Entrepreneur, Abby Siegrist - Nurse, Sean Cannon - Acrobat, Nathan Rule - Electric Tech., Brandy Hitchings - Teacher; (third row) Wes Tillett - Doctor, Aine Spur - Nurse, Tanya Spur - Undecided, Abbey Zimmer - Interior Decorator, Jennifer Kinnard - Graphic Designer, Melissa Dunlap - Accountant, Amber Reff - Nurse, Nicole Hamer - Park Ranger, Adam Brown - Photographer/ Graphic Designer, Bryon Huff - Undecided, Amy Tycheck - Pharmacist, Elizabeth Daniels - Psychologist.

Page 43-44: (first row) Maria Cox - Undecided, Grandon Spence - Architecture, Melissa Hardesty - Nurse, Ben Chapman - Mechanic, Kelly Barlow - Pharmacist, Diane Jung - Marketing, Cristin Carter - Art Therapist, Karen Kleinkort - Business, Dave Fish - Doctor, Christie Prohosky - Pre-School Teacher, Melissa Dunlap - Accountant, Heather Deardurff - Chiropractor; (second row) Bill Parker - Undecided, Kerry Mathew - Undecided, Cathy Jordan — Psychologist, Kevin DeMoss - Physical Therapist, Willie Wallace - Mechanic, Chad Wiseman - Drafting, Joe Chapman - Undecided, J.J. Nagel - Law Enforcement, Amy Raff - Pharmacist, Amy Brown - Psychologist, Carra Hannon - Nurse, Kevin Schrum - Undecided; (third row) Martha Sellers - Chef, Kara Meunier - Secretary, Brian Post - Golf Pro, Kent Korniak - Engineer, Michelle Tillotta - Advertising, Pam Kyle - Interior Design, Brienne Risner - Psychologist, Bill Hannon - Aerospace Engineer, Matt Nagel - Truck Driver; (fourth row) Brad Burvan - Golf Pro, Ryan Wing - Race Car Driver, Brandon Carroll - Teacher, Jennifer Pullins - Athletic Trainer, Stacie Wilson - Musician, Bruce Dresher - Farmer, Dan Pitstick - Ag. Engineer, Jamie Jarrette - Mechanic; (fifth row) Tom Geren - Conservation Officer, Nathan Bailey - Dietician, Lisa Sinar - Business, Heather Hopp - Advertising, Rebecca Northcutt - Nurse, Vince VonTobel - Pilot, Ed Regan - Singer, Christian Brooks - Manager; (sixth row) Mary Marlin - Music, Nikki Kerns - Teacher, Bill DelPrincipe - Undecided, ————, Jason Brock - Architect, Kelly Healey - Audiology, Allison Franz - Record Keeping.

Peppin's

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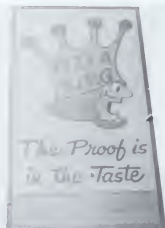
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